

## Egyptian envoy on Yemen mission

SANAA (R) — An envoy of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived in Sanaa on Sunday in what political sources said could be a last bid to stop Yemen breaking up. Assistant Foreign Minister Badr Hamman, on his fourth visit to Yemen this year, said he was carrying a message from Mr. Mubarak to President Ali Abdullah Saleh "stressing Egypt's interest in security, peace and stability in Yemen."

One political source said: "This could be the last mediation attempt by any non-Yemeni party, before everybody washes their hands off." Differences which emerged last year between Mr. Saleh and his southern rival, Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beidh, are threatening Yemen's four-year-old unity. Mr. Hamman said: "Egypt's attitude is one of protecting and defending unity in Yemen and the implementation of a reconciliation accord" providing for political, military, economic and administrative reforms which Mr. Saleh and Mr. Beidh signed in Amman in February.

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## Israel, PLO resume talks with conflicting ideas on final accord

CAIRO (Agencies) — Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) sat down to a fresh round of talks on Sunday on limited Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and Jericho, under the supervision of an autonomous Palestinian local administration.

At the previous round last week, the negotiators agreed on details of a 9,000-strong Palestinian police force which will move into Gaza and Jericho, under the supervision of an autonomous Palestinian local administration.

Dr. Shaath, asked what was left to negotiate, said: "What remains from the last time — finishing off some of the security aspects, jurisdiction and the water."

"All of those must be finished and I hope they will be finished, we hope this will be the last round," he added.

The PLO says it will also keep pressing Israel to include members of Hamas in a timetable for the release of a further 3,500 Palestinian prisoners.

Mr. Dahlan insisted they would discuss "all the prisoners of the Palestinian people."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, in an interview published in the Egyptian government newspaper Al Ahram on Sunday, said reaching an agreement on the Gaza-Jericho plan was the best answer to "the enemies of peace."

Asked if he expected to sign an agreement by the end of the month, he said: "We have to take into account the fact that if the next conference (meeting with PLO leader Yasser Arafat) is not well prepared, that would mean failure."

"And failure means frustration and disappointment."

Mr. Arafat, is, however, expected to meet Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres at a conference in Bucharest on Friday.

Mr. Rabin, in an oblique criticism of the PLO negotiators, said it was important not to reopen issues already settled.

"Otherwise it means we would be going around in a vicious circle. We have already wasted a lot of time discussing matters which had been agreed," he added.

In last week's talks, a major dispute blew up over how much power the Palestinian courts in Gaza and Jericho will

months and have already missed two of the deadlines set when Israel and the PLO signed a historic peace agreement last September.

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## Israel warns PLO against military relations with Hamas

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told his cabinet Sunday that Israel strongly opposes any military cooperation between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and militant groups which have claimed responsibility for recent suicide bomb attacks.

The warning came amid reports that Hamas had held a series of meetings with officials of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's mainstay Fatah faction in the West Bank and Gaza Strip aimed at avoiding bloodshed between the two rival groups.

Reports carried by the state-owned radio and other Israeli media said Hamas sought Fatah's agreement to continue attacks inside Israel.

But Palestinians said the meetings have focused on arrangements after self-rule starts in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

"Israel will thoroughly check the reports of cooperation, and if there is any truth to it, Israel will be strongly against it," Rabin spokesman Oded Ben-Ami quoted the prime minister as telling the weekly meeting of his 14-member cabinet.

Mr. Rabin later told reporters after a meeting of his Labour Party that "I don't

consider it possible that we will reach agreement with the PLO if it reaches agreement with the Hamas to avoid a civil war but allows attacks on Israelis."

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, who has played a key role in peace negotiations, said Hamas-PLO cooperation in pursuing attacks inside Israel could kill the peace talks between Israel and the PLO.

"If there will be such an agreement, there will be no agreement with Israel," he said.

Hamas wants assurances from the PLO that it will be

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## Israel has peace plan for Syria

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli newspapers on Sunday published details of a draft peace proposal the government will ask U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher to deliver to Syria later this month.

Every major paper said Israeli military planners gave Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin a draft peace deal on Friday, and a participant at Sunday's weekly cabinet meeting quoted Mr. Rabin as leading credence to the media reports.

"Staff work on the negotiations with Syria was indeed carried out in particular on the security issue," Mr. Rabin was quoted as saying.

His spokesman declined comment but said Israel was preparing to resume talks with Syria at the end of the month.

The newspaper reports said Israel would ask Washington for certain assurances to accompany a peace deal with Syria. They said Mr. Christopher would take the Israeli draft to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

Israeli-Syrian peace talks began in October 1991. Syria along with Jordan, Lebanon and the Palestinians cut short the last round in Washington over the February 25 Hebron mosque massacre.

The talks with Syria have stalled over the strategic Golan Heights. Syria demands full withdrawal. Mr. Rabin has said publicly Israel could make a partial pullback but will not discuss it until Syria says if peace means full ties.

The daily Haaretz said the

peace outline included the following six proposals:

— A declaration of Israel's commitment to the principle of withdrawal from the Golan Heights. It does not say whether Israel is willing to make a full withdrawal.

— Full diplomatic relations with embassies, open borders and economic ties.

— The Israeli withdrawal would be implemented in stages over a period of years.

— Normalisation of relations and establishment of diplomatic ties would take place after the first stage Israeli withdrawal, with Israel still controlling much of the Golan.

— Discussion of the future of water sources Israel views as

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## Serbs press defiance of U.N.

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (Agencies) — Serb tanks roared into the heart of the besieged Muslim enclave of Gorazde on Sunday, terrifying tens of thousands of people cowering in their homes or on rain-soaked streets, U.N. relief officials said.

Word of the Serb advance came even as Bosnian Serb leaders near Sarajevo talked of a ceasefire for Gorazde.

Sylvana Foa, spokeswoman for the Geneva-based U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, painted a picture of despair in Gorazde and around the building housing U.N. staff there.

"Shells and sniper fire are shaking the building and it's suicidal to step outside," she said. "We're now up to about 30,000 panicking people who have moved into the centre of town. Our building is full of people fleeing."

"Whatever house that can take people, or building, it's all packed."

He said many people could only stand in the streets as heavy rain fell.

Word of a renewed Serb onslaught contrasted sharply with a U.N. announcement an hour earlier that Serbs had agreed a truce and to withdraw heavy weapons encircling the town.

Fresh reports of an offensive once again raised the possibility of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) air strikes, but Bosnian Serb Army (BSA) commander Ratko Mladic continued to ignore U.N. warnings.

Peacekeeping commanders had called in NATO air raids a week ago to protect U.N. personnel in Gorazde from a Serb attack.

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## Serb tanks leave Gorazde

BOSNIAN SERB tanks withdrew from Gorazde on Sunday, U.N. sources said. "The tanks have pulled out and there are no Serb soldiers in the town," a U.N. source told Reuters a few hours after U.N. special envoy Yasushi Akashi reported the Serbs had agreed to a ceasefire and withdrawal.

"They're totally panicked," she said. "They're telling us that the tanks and the Serbs are only about 500 metres from this building."

"They (UNHCR staff) tried to take a look outside and there was so much sniper fire, they came back in."

"This is a very dramatic situation," said Manuel de Almeida Y Silva of UNHCR.



His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday presents the Al Nabda Medal of the First Order to Lebanese Parliament Speaker and political leader Nabih Berri (Petra photo).

## Festivities to mark completion of Dome of Rock restoration

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Dignitaries and representatives of dozens of Muslim governments and organisations will join celebrations commemorating the completion of restoration work at the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem at a ceremony attended by His Majesty King Hussein at the Palace of Culture today.

The King is expected to emphasise the importance of the future of Jerusalem to Muslims and Arabs and stress the need to make the city accessible to members of the three monotheistic religions — Islam, Christianity and Judaism.

The restoration work, which began in 1991, was

financed by King Hussein. The Dome of the Mosque encases the rock from which the Prophet Mohammed launched his nocturnal flight to heavens. Work also involved the pulpit of Salaheddin Al Ayyoubi, the 11th century Muslim warrior who liberated Jerusalem from the Crusaders.

Despite the July 1988 disengagement with the occupied territories, Jordan retains administrative control of the Muslim holy sites in Jerusalem.

Palestinian mayors and religious and political dignitaries from the occupied territories as well as Arab citizens of Israel are expected to attend Monday's ceremony. Jerusalem-based Palesti-

nian leader Faisal Hussein and acting Speaker of the Palestine National Council Salim Zounon will be attending.

Dignitaries include the grand mufties of Jerusalem, Yemen, Syria, Malaysia and Iraq, official representatives from the Sultanate of Oman and Brunei, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Iran, Egypt, Sudan, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Russia, Uzbekistan, Turkey and Pakistan are also expected to attend.

Other guests include representatives of Islamic organisations and charity groups from Saudi Arabia, the United States and Britain in addition to Christian delegations from Lebanon and Turkey.

## Senate rallies behind King's reaffirmation of political stands

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) on Sunday voiced full support for His Majesty King Hussein in his firm stand in the face of Israeli threats directed at Jordan, and accused the Jewish state of trying to shift the blame for its internal problems on the Kingdom. The Senate also reiterated Jordan's full backing to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in its drive to regain the rights of the Palestinian people.

The Senate voiced its stand in a statement issued following a session chaired by its Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi one day after King Hussein voiced Jordan's rejection of Israeli threats to the Kingdom over the presence of activists of the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, in Jordan.

Following is the Senate's statement:

The Senate studied at its session on Sunday statements by His Majesty King Hussein to the local and foreign media on Saturday and found that the King had reiterated in those statements Jordan's principled stands with regard to the Palestinian cause and other matters and issues related to it.

The Senate declares its absolute support for the Jordanian stand as expressed by the King, who left no room for doubt about the Kingdom's position with regard to a just peace that would guarantee the national rights of the Palestinian people in their land and the liberation of the occupied Arab territories in harmony with the requirements of international legitimacy and human rights principles as embodied in U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242, 338 and 425.

Israel's continued procrastination and its drive to obstruct the just and comprehensive peace process have created frustration and bitterness which provide a breeding ground for violence and extremism that could widen and expand should everyone fail to realise that there can be no security or stability in the region except through serious and sincere endeavours to attain genuine peace acceptable to all people in various domains.

Israel's attempt to overlook the real causes of the problem, which is of its own making, and its attempts to seek imaginary causes for it by levelling accusations at other parties and by recriminations invalidated by facts can by no means yield any result except increas-

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## Kigali carnage continues; ceasefire talks are stalled

BUJUMBURA, Burundi (Agencies) — Rwandan soldiers raped and hacked to death civilians while battles with rebels raged for an 11th day in the capital Kigali after the breakdown of ceasefire talks, witnesses said on Sunday.

About 3,600 rebels had infiltrated the city but army units and the presidential guard were still resisting fiercely.

An interim Rwandan government official said ceasefire talks which began on Friday between rebels and army units had stalled over stringent conditions each party set ahead of negotiations.

"We are not talking just now," the official said.

The interim government has been rejected as "a clique of murderers" by the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF).

In neighbouring Bujumbura, Burundian President Cyprien Ntaryamira and two ministers who were killed with Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana in a rocket attack on their plane in Rwanda on April 6, were given a state burial on Saturday.

Their deaths sparked an

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## Israel eases ban on Palestinians

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel has slightly eased a 11-day-old ban barring the two million Palestinians of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip from entering Israel, a government minister said on Sunday. "The closure is going to continue (but) there are over 16,000 (entry) permits for humanitarian purposes and over 4,000 work permits (that have been issued)," Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein told reporters after a weekly cabinet meeting. "The situation will be weighed from day to day," he said. A Palestinian shot by Israeli soldiers in the occupied West Bank died of his wounds at a Jerusalem hospital on Saturday, a hospital spokesman said. Arab sources said troops shot Nabil Nimir Inter, 19, in the head during stone-throwing clashes in Kalandiya, north of Jerusalem, on Friday night.

## King meets Berri, urges better Arab coordination for peace

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein met Sunday with Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri for talks on the Middle East peace process.

After the hour-long session, King Hussein said that he hoped for "serious coordination" among the four Arab states involved in the peace talks with Israel.

King Hussein said: "We hope and pray that the process of serious and real coordination and cooperation will soon resume."

"We have hopes that the good people will soon join us in coordinating our position in the (peace) process so that all of us can face the challenges together."

Mr. Berri arrived Saturday on a five-day official visit. He had earlier met with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali (see page 3).

King Hussein expressed his joy over meeting with the Lebanese delegation, saying Jordan and Lebanon have the same hopes and aspirations. "We are the closest of Arabs and we implore God that we

resume from now on the coordination process and the real cooperation, hoping that this circle would be widened, by God's will, to include the good in this Arab Nation in these harsh circumstances," the Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted the King as saying.

The King expressed confidence that "these difficult circumstances will not last for long" and expressed hope that Arab countries would join their efforts to create a better future for the region.

Mr. Berri expressed the appreciation of the Lebanese people for the King's stands in support of the Lebanese cause and commended his Majesty's positions vis-a-vis all Arab issues.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan attended the meeting. It was also attended by Dr. Majali, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Lower House Speaker Taher Al Masri, the King's advisors and other Jordanian and Lebanese officials.

## Majali stresses rejection of unilateral agreements

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali on Sunday reaffirmed Jordan's rejection of any unilateral solution to the Middle East conflict saying that Jordan was seeking just, comprehensive and durable peace acceptable by all Arab parties concerned.

Speaking during a meeting with representatives of publications of political parties, Dr. Majali said Jordan had been subjected to pressure in a bid to force it to change its principled stand towards Arab issues.

Dr. Majali rejected Israel's attempts to link Jordan with terrorism and said there could be a linkage between the threats and Israel's attempts to export its internal crises to Jordan.

Dr. Majali said the siege of Aqaba was part of the Gulf war and that Jordan had been suffering for more than three years from the blockade.

He said the siege had so far cost Jordan more than \$1.2 billion.

The prime minister said the government was exerting efforts with France, Britain and others to explain the dangers posed by the situation.

He added that Jordan made intensive contacts with the U.S. administration and the United Nations Sanctions Committee to stop the interception of ships heading for Aqaba. He expressed hope that a solution be reached to

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## Oman to get multilateral centre for water desalination research

MUSCAT (Agencies) — Oman reaped the first fruits of its decision to host a round of multilateral peace talks when participants agreed in principle on Sunday to set up a research centre in the sultanate for seawater desalination.

Delegates at the talks, which were launched at the 1991 Madrid conference, said there was virtual consensus on setting up a centre here which would look into cheaper ways of producing sweet water from the sea.

Desalination is vital for largely arid countries like Oman and its fellow Gulf Arab oil states, as well as states like Israel which is a leader in desalination technology.

But its costs are prohibitive for poorer Middle East countries short of renewable water resources but equally lacking in the technology or the oil wealth to finance desalination.

Delegates said there was a political dimension to the decision.

It implies cooperation with Israel, a key participant in the multilateral negotiations on

water which sent a deputy foreign minister to the Muscat talks — the first senior Israeli to visit any Gulf state since the Jewish state was set up in 1948.

The Israeli minister, Yossi Beilin, told reporters he welcomed the setting up of the Oman centre and hoped Israeli knowhow would be used to benefit the countries of the region.

Delegations came from Arab countries like Yemen, Morocco, Mauritania and Tunisia; Europe, the United States and Japan, and international bodies like the World Bank and the United Nations. In all, 44 delegations were represented at the talks.

Of the four parties involved in direct peace talks with Israel, only one, the Palestinians, sent a team to the conference. Jordan, which has suspended negotiations with Israel to protest the interception of Jordan-bound ships by the U.S.-led task force monitoring sanctions against Iraq, sent a lone observer. Syria and Lebanon upheld their boycott of the multilateral meetings

and had no representation at the talks.

Israel's Beilin said Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had agreed that the issue of water supplies for the occupied territories would be saved for the direct Israel-PLO talks underway in Cairo.

"This can make it easier for us here and make the talks more practical, dealing in a few projects, mostly those involved in saving water," he told Israel Radio.

However, he said unilateral Palestinian control of water supplies would be unacceptable.

On Saturday, the PLO said it would form a Palestinian water authority to "organise, administer and preserve" water resources in the Gaza Strip and Jericho after Israel withdraws under the terms of the current Israel-PLO talks in Cairo.

Israeli delegation member Freddy Zach, a senior official in the Israeli administration of the occupied territories, said the authority would not infringe the Sept. 13 agreement,



## Beyond police and security, debates are on stamps and parades

By Eileen Alt Powell  
The Associated Press

CAIRO — On one side of the table sits Major General Amnon Shahak, born in Tel Aviv four years before Israel was founded in 1948.

On the other is Nabil Shaath, a Palestinian businessman who was eight when his family was exiled that year from Jaffa, then an Arab town, now a Tel Aviv suburb.

They lead the Israeli and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) teams that have negotiated for six months on how to implement the Israeli-PLO peace accord signed Sept. 13 at the White House.

In talks that resumed Sunday, they hope to work out the final details of Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho, so Palestinian self-rule can begin.

They are not just debating big questions of land and security. The September accord left out dozens of the details that make an arrangement work or fail, from which broadcast frequencies the Palestinians will have to how electricity hills will be collected.

So far, the debate has been difficult — acrimonious at

times — to the point that the negotiators missed the Dec. 13 target for Israel to start the withdrawal and a second deadline, last Wednesday, for completing it.

"You have to remember that these delegations represent people who have fought each other for years," Dr. Shaath said in an interview. "This is not a quick and easy process."

Sen. Shahak, too, says strains between the two sides run deep.

In an interview with the Israeli newspaper Yedioth Ahronoth, he decried the Palestinian team's anger when Israel recessed the talks earlier this month to mark "holocaust day."

"Nabil is perhaps one of the few on the other side who knows something about the holocaust," Sen. Shahak said. "It could be that we have the same problems in understanding their sensitivities."

The Palestinians, exiles or living under occupation, want not only the corner of Palestine offered for autonomy, but anything that can be construed as a symbol of the future state they seek.

One argument has been over whether they would have their own postage stamps. Dr. Shaath, 54, is a stamp collec-

tor. His main business is publishing children's books in Arabic, but he also has published a book of Palestinian postmarks and stamps from Ottoman and British-mandate times.

The Israelis have sought to focus the negotiations on security, for Jewish settlers in the occupied territories and for Israel itself.

That is Sen. Shahak's area. A career military man, he commanded a paratroop unit in the 1967 Middle East war, when Israel seized Gaza and the West Bank. He also served in intelligence and is now the army's deputy chief of staff.

At Cairo's Al Gezrah Sheraton, the negotiating teams have their own meeting and sleeping rooms on separate floors. They take turns playing host to meetings and each has its own security guards.

In their meetings, which sometimes run well beyond midnight, the negotiators share coffee, tea and pastries. They usually eat their meals separately, however, with the Israelis preferring the hotel buffet and the Palestinians a kebab grill.

During the week of Passover, when Jews observe special dietary restrictions, the Israeli team flew in its own chef and "kosher for Passover" ingre-



Palestinian chief negotiator Nabil Shaath (left) arrives at a Cairo hotel on Sunday to resume self-rule negotiations with Israel (AFP photo)

dients.

Efforts to avoid journalists have produced some strange rumours. During one session at a secret site, photographers were convinced the negotiators were aboard a cruise boat on the Nile. They were not.

Dr. Shaath said the talks are generally "businesslike," and that, while there have been

heated arguments, "I don't remember them ever getting out of hand or people trading blows or using nasty words."

Some of the arguments sound almost frivolous. When the Palestinians demanded that their 9,000-man police force be deployed with ceremony, Sen. Shahak complained: "I don't understand. What do they

mean, by a parade?"

To Dr. Shaath, "deployment with flair" is critical. "Psychological needs are very important," he said. "We want our people to see that the police are coming in with honour, with their heads held high — that they are proud police, by and for the Palestinian people."

## Top leader of most feared Algerian armed group dead

ALGIERS (Agencies) — One of the warlords of the Islamic Armed Group, a radical organisation hunting down foreigners, has been killed, security forces announced Saturday.

Sayah Attia, "emir" of the Medea region, was killed in a confrontation in February but his body was only recently identified, the announcement said.

Attia's death further weakens the leadership structure of the Islamic Armed Group, considered the fiercest of numerous Muslim fundamentalist groups waging a holy war for the past two years against Algeria's military-backed government.

The group, which targets foreigners among others, is finally opposed to dialogue espoused by President Liamine Zeroual to end the violence. In November, it threatened to kill Muslim fundamentalist leaders who accept talks.

The Islamic Armed Group's top chief, Mourad Si Ahmad, known as Jafar Al Afghani, was also killed in February along with nine of his lieutenants in a police operation in Algiers.

There had been rumours of Attia's death but no confirmation. Some 250 attacks were attributed to Attia, including the December massacre of 12 Croats working on a construction project in Tamezguia, near Bida, south of the capital. He was held responsible for the Dec. 2 killing of a Spaniard and for the Jan. 11 massacre of the governor of Tissemsilt and 18 other regional officials.

Attia, a volunteer in the Afghanistan civil war, was his organisation's warlord for the region of Medea, 100 kilometres south of Algiers.

Among the leaders of the Islamic Armed Group still at large are Mouloud Hattab, "emir" of the eastern coastal region around Algiers, and Cherif Gousmi, "emir" of the Birkhadem region, west of the capital.

Mr. Hattab is held responsible for the August assassination of former Premier Kasdi Merbah, killed in a highway attack, and Mr. Gousmi is said to have organised the March 22 killings of a Frenchman and his son whose throats were slit in front of their family.

The announcement of Attia's death came a day after newly-appointed Prime Minister Mokdad Sifi formed his government, a team made up mainly of technocrats.

Mr. Zeroual's decision to replace Redha Malek, who favoured a hardline approach to the Islamic insurgency, underscored the president's intention to pursue a two-track policy of dialogue and security.

The most notable change in the new government was the removal of Interior Minister Salim Saadi, another hardliner. He was replaced by Abdul Rahman Meziane Cherif, a former governor.

Most of the 18 new ministers are top civil servants, assuring Mr. Zeroual a free hand in pursuing his policies. The president, appointed Jan. 31, has said he had made contact with jailed leaders of the Islamic Salvation Front, the main fundamentalist movement, before taking office and intends to pursue that course.

The spiralling violence which has left some 4,000 people dead in two years, including 32 foreigners, was triggered when the army cancelled January 1992 legislative elections to thwart a likely Islamic Salvation Front victory.

The APS news agency quoted security forces as saying that Tahiri Belkacem, 32, brother-in-law of jailed fundamentalist leader Ahassi Madani, had also been killed.

Belkacem was sprung from a top security prison near the eastern town of Batna in a spectacular raid by dozens of armed militants last month. At least 900 prisoners escaped, including more than 200 men on death row for fundamentalist activities.

The security forces said earlier they had killed more than 60 of the fugitives.

Belkacem was serving a life sentence for a bomb attack on Algiers airport in August 1992 in which nine people were killed and more than 120 wounded.

APS said that a journalist, Mohammed Mecheieuk working for the weekly Detective was killed last Wednesday in a market some 35 kilometres northwest of the town of Chlef. He was at least the 13th journalist to be killed since May 1993 in attacks blamed on militants.

## Plausible explanation of disaster still eludes U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The more the Pentagon has disclosed about the downing of two American helicopters by two U.S. jet fighters over Iraq, the harder it has become to understand how the tragedy could have happened.

The nation's top military officer told reporters Friday that the fighter pilots who mistook the army Blackhawk helicopters for Iraqi choppers used an electronic signaling system to check whether they were friend or foe but got no response.

That disclosure by General John Shalikashvili, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, did not necessarily exonerate the pilots of responsibility for the accident Thursday, in which all 26 men and women aboard the helicopters were killed.

In fact, it raised additional questions. Why did not the F-15 pilots receive the expected response from the signaling system aboard the helicopters? A response indicating that the Blackhawks were "friendly" should have been

automatic. And, in the absence of a response from the helicopters, why would not the F-15 pilots have taken additional steps — such as attempting to contact them by radio — especially in light of the fact the F-15s knew U.S. choppers were operating in that area?

Gen. Shalikashvili also said the codes and other necessary settings for the electronic "friend or foe" identification systems used by U.S. and allied aircraft "were in fact correctly spelled out" to all involved before the Blackhawks started their flight.

All involved also had been told which radio frequencies to use, the general said.

Defence Secretary William Perry said all U.S. and allied fighter patrols of the "no-fly" zone set up in northern Iraq were suspended Friday to review safety procedures.

AWACS radar control planes continued to fly Friday, keeping a lookout for possible

Iraqi violators of the zone, officials said. They could call on allied fighters in the area if they spotted suspicious flights, the officials said.

The victims' remains were flown from an air base in Turkey to Rhein main air base in Germany for formal identification and eventual return to their respective nations. They include 15 Americans, three Turkish officers, two British officers and one French officer, plus five Kurds.

The "friend or foe" identification normally works automatically if activated. That is, once the F-15 pilots had used their system to "interrogate" the Blackhawks below them, the system on board the choppers should have automatically sent back a coded signal saying, in effect, "we're friendly."

Gen. Shalikashvili said one of the aims of the investigation was to determine why no proper reply was received by the F-15s.

Officials have said the pilots reported that from visual inspection of the helicopters they

believed they were Iraqi aircraft. It was not clear whether the fighter pilots asked the AWACS for confirmation or for permission to fire.

Gen. Shalikashvili said procedures used in allied operations over northern Iraq did not require the pilots to ask the AWACS for permission to fire.

Also, Mr. Perry said, the pilots did not try to establish radio contact with their targets before firing, and that this was not required by procedures.

Even so, it remains a mystery why the F-15 pilots took no additional steps to confirm the helicopters' identity, especially since the choppers' flight plan had been given in detail the day before to all concerned — including the F-15 pilots. In addition, the Blackhawks posed no apparent security threat to the fighters, and no Iraqi helicopters had ever been seen flying that far north.

Mr. Perry said many questions remain to be answered about the incident, and that "if individuals are found culpable, we will discipline them."

## Witnesses describe downing of two U.S. helicopters

NAHLA VALLEY, Iraq (AP) — The two U.S. helicopters downed by "friendly fire" this week were flying close together along this narrow valley when a pair of jets appeared from the mountains to the north, witnesses said Saturday.

The jets — U.S. F-15s, it turned out — descended and circled above the helicopters three times. Then, each jet brought down one of the choppers, the witnesses said.

"They then circled the scene once more before departing to the west," said General Ali Osman of the Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP).

Gen. Osman is regional commander for the Aqrah region, where the helicopters were shot down Thursday by the U.S. jets, which apparently mistook them for Iraqi craft.

"The wreckage of the helicopters fell about 1.2 miles (two kilometres) apart," said Gen. Osman, whose military party watched the whole incident.

An Iraqi Kurdish villager was farming about 300 metres from where the first helicopter crashed.

"It broke apart in the air then the pieces landed," said Aziz Mohammed Amin. Wreckage remained in his onion field, strewn over an area of about 60 square metres. A tree smoldered from the fire that consumed the helicopter when it crashed.

A piece of an engine, boots, a sleeping bag, food wrappers and other personal effects littered the field. A charred piece of scalp also was observed.

The KDP had sealed off the area under orders from the Military Command Centre (MCC) run by the U.S.-led coalition force in Zakho. But a team of Associated Press reporters were able to reach one of the wreckage sites with the help of Iraqi Kurdish guides.

"We are very, very unhappy. They came for humanitarian purposes and become victims," Gen. Osman said of the victims.

He claimed to have made a video of the incident with a camera brought by his team to film a weekly tour of the area for broadcast on Iraqi Kurdish television.

Gen. Osman said the foot-

steps were later handed over to KDP leader Masoud Barzani. His account could not be independently verified.

Gen. Osman said his team put out the fire with water from the stream as they rushed to the scene of one crash site, but found no survivors.

Talji Amin, a local leader, said Iraqi Kurds carried bodies away from the wreckage.

Gen. Osman said the members of the MCC arrived shortly after the incident in four helicopters, containing more than 20 people, to evacuate the bodies and do an initial investigation.

The MCC coordinates the humanitarian mission on behalf of Kurds under allied protection in northern Iraq and maintains contacts with Iraqi Kurdish leaders. A Kurdish official identified one of the 26 victims as U.S. Army Colonel Jerry Thompson, the outgoing commander of the MCC.

Shazad Saib, a spokesman for the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan speaking from Ankara, Turkey, said Thompson was killed along with his recently appointed replacement, U.S. Army Colonel Richard A. Mulhern.

Mr. Saib said the colonels were flying to Salahaddin, near the city of Erbil, to meet with the representatives of the U.N. office which coordinates humanitarian efforts with the MCC and with Mr. Barzani.

Twenty coalition force personnel, including 12 Americans, are based at the coordination centre.

U.S. Navy Commander Ron Morse, a spokesman for the European command in Stuttgart, Germany, said command of the centre would be assumed under a "clear cut procedure," without providing details.

Iraqi Kurdistan television asked every person to display a black piece of cloth in mourning for the victims. Several cars could be seen with black ribbons flying from their antennae.

Black banners also appeared on the roadsides, like the one on the road from Aqrah which said in English "Martyrs of U.N. will forever stay in our hearts."

The bodies of the victims were flown to Germany on Friday.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Druze on Golan mark Syrian independence

MAJDAL SHAMS (R) — Druze Arabs on the Israeli-held Golan Heights staged demonstrations and a general strike on Sunday to mark Syrian Independence Day. About 18,000 Druze and 15,000 Israelis live on the heights seized by Israel from Syria in 1967. Some 300 Druze gathered in the Golan village of Majdal Shams where 600 Israeli police were deployed during a mostly peaceful march. Witnesses said a few stoned police who tried to restrict the crowd's movement. Demonstrators listened to the Syrian national anthem and applauded. Several hundred metres away on a hill across the border fence, about 2,000 Syrian Druze held a rally, waving Syrian flags and shouting slogans over loudspeakers against Israel's occupation of the Golan.

## Suspected extremists shoot at Egyptian train

CAIRO (R) — Unidentified gunmen shot at a train near the radical stronghold of Assiut but caused no injuries, police said Sunday. The incident followed similar attacks on trains and Nile cruise ships by extremists who are trying to oust Egypt's tourism business as part of their campaign to oust the secular government. The train fired on at midnight Saturday was travelling to Cairo from the major tourist site of Aswan. Bu police said few tourists were aboard the train. The shooting was near a village south of Assiut, 320 kilometres south of Cairo. Assiut is a stronghold for Egypt's largest underground militant group, Al Gamaa Al Islamiya.

## German agent dies mysteriously in Libya

MUNICH (AP) — A senior German intelligence official and his wife have died in Libya in mysterious circumstances, German newspaper has reported. The Focus magazine identified the man as Silvan Becker, a desk chief in the department responsible for investigating international terrorism in the Cologne-based office for the Protection of the Constitution (BfV), the German equivalent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Focus said Becker died last week in a Tripoli military hospital. German intelligence officials did not know the circumstances of his death and the death of his wife, Focus said. The car used by the couple was found undamaged in Tripoli. The Libyans so far have not released their bodies. Focus said Becker had been granted permission at his request for a holiday trip to Egypt. Focus report was confirmed by an official of the German domestic intelligence agency, who requested anonymity. The magazine released in advance to other media a summary of its article to appear in its Monday edition.

## Body of Syrian fugitive found in Sidon

SIDON (AP) — The body of a Syrian fugitive was found Sunday at the Palestinian refugee camp of 'Ain Al Hilwan near this southern port city, police reported. Police identified the victim as Ismail Julaiati, 35, but said they did not know what the Syrian authorities wanted him for. The terse police statement said Julaiati was shot to death by a silence-equipped pistol at least a day before inside his house in a tenting camp on the outskirts of Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut. It did not give further details or say what the motive behind the killing was. But Syria, Lebanon's main power broker with 40,000 troops deployed over 70 per cent Lebanese territory, maintains a token presence in the city. Security sources in Sidon, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Julaiati belonged to Sheikh Saeed Shaaban's Islamic Tawheed Movement, a Sunni Muslim fundamentalist group based in Tripoli in northern Lebanon.

## Turks commemorate Ozal on death anniversary

ISTANBUL (R) — Some 5,000 Turks gathered prayers at a graveside of their late President Turgut Ozal on the anniversary of his death on Sunday. Turkish television channels said they would run special programmes to remember the former leader, who combined pro-Western policy with a personal devotion to Islam. Ozal, who died at the age 66, served as prime minister from 1983 to 1989 when he was elected president for a seven-year term.

## Turkish ship takes delivery of 212 Stinger

FRANKFURT (AP) — After taking evasive action to avoid protesters, a Turkish-registered freighter loaded 212 Stinger missiles for the Turkish military and sailed for home Saturday. German television said the freighter Kayserin sailed from Hamburg without the missiles after about 55 left protested at the Hamburg harbour against the export of weapons. But the ship sailed to the nearby Elbe port of Glueckstadt and picked up the 212 missiles made by a German company Dornier, ZDF and N-TV television station reported. The German defence ministry, which has suspended arms exports to Turkey, said the shipment was not part of military aid, but a commercial deal between companies and a legal. The government last week said it was suspending military aid deliveries to Turkey until it could determine whether German-supplied weapons were being used against Kurdish separatist rebels.

## China arrests 3 for Taiwan boat blaze

BEIJING (R) — Police in the east China province of Zhejiang have arrested three men in their 20s for their part in a boat fire last month in which 24 Taiwan tourists were killed, state television said on Sunday. The tragedy at Qiandao Lake, Zhejiang province on March 31 had strained uneasy relations between Taiwan and China, bitter rivals since the Chinese civil war was ended in 1949. State television said that, following the incident, Zhejiang police mounted an intensive operation that has resulted in the arrest of the three, all natives of Zhejiang. They are suspected of murder, robbery and arson and investigations into the case are continuing, it said, but gave no more details. A Taiwan government source quoting intelligence reports told Reuters on Saturday that a group of renegade People's Liberation Army soldiers armed with flamethrowers robbed the tourists and burnt them to death.

## JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME TWO  
17:30 ... Le Aventures De L'Espace  
18:30 ... Beaumanoir  
18:45 ... L'Ecole Des Fats  
19:00 ... News in French  
19:15 ... The Weekly Sports Magazine  
19:30 ... News in Hebrew  
19:45 ... Science World  
20:00 ... News in Arabic  
20:30 ... The Nanny  
21:00 ... Jordanique  
21:20 ... Pandora's Box  
22:00 ... News in English  
22:20 ... Black Powder  
23:20 ... Top Cops

## PRAYER TIMES

04:38 ... Fajr  
05:59 ... (Sunrise) Dhuha  
12:35 ... Dhuhr  
16:12 ... 'Asr  
19:10 ... Maghreb  
20:51 ... Isha

## CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedfish, Tel. 510740  
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terremata Church Tel. 623666

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church Tel. 625226.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328.

German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195.

The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932.

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691.

The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295.

## WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Warm weather conditions will prevail with temperatures rising above average. Clouds will appear at different altitudes as winds become northeasterly light to moderate. In Aqaba, it

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

will be dusty and warm; winds northerly moderate, and sea calm.  
Min./Max. temp. 15 / 30  
Aqaba 21 / 38  
Deserts 11 / 33  
Jordan Valley 18 / 33

Yesterday's high temperatures:  
Amman 29, Aqaba 35 Humidity readings:  
Amman 12 per cent, Aqaba 20 per cent.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

## NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Mikhail Mazahreh 810425  
Dr. Nasser Ibrahim 810399  
Dr. Shihab Abu Zayad 737962  
Dr. Mohammed Al Izzah 752971  
First pharmacy 661912  
Ferdous pharmacy 778336  
Al Asma pharmacy 637055  
Najrah pharmacy 626752  
Al Salam pharmacy 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy 649493  
Shuqran pharmacy 637660  
Najrah pharmacy 626752  
Najrah pharmacy 647632

will be dusty and warm; winds northerly moderate, and sea calm.  
Min./Max. temp. 15 / 30  
Aqaba 21 / 38  
Deserts 11 / 33  
Jordan Valley 18 / 33

## EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111  
Civil Defence Department 661111  
Rescue 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency 199  
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade 891228  
Blood Bank 775221  
Highway Police 843402  
Traffic Police 896390  
Public Security Department 630321  
Hotel Complaints 625800  
Police Complaints 661176  
Water and Sewerage 843402  
Complaints 891467  
Amman Municipality 787111  
Telephone Information 121  
Directory assistance 010230  
Overseas Calls 010230  
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 773111  
Radio Jordan 774111  
Water Authority 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615  
Electric Power ZARQA  
RJ Flight Information 663320  
Queen Alia Int. Airport 06-53200

## HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre 81381332  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644251/6  
Al-Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644244/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362  
Malha, J. Amman 636140  
Palestine Sunbath 6641714  
Shuqran Hospital 669131  
University Hospital 845845  
Al-Mushar Hospital 6672779  
The Islamic, Abdali 66612757  
Al-Abul, Abdali 6641646  
Italian, Al-Muljara 7771013  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafiah 7751126  
Army, Marka 8916115  
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050  
Amal Hospital 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)963323  
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560  
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)988732  
Al Hilana Modern Hospital (09)999990

19:40 ... Bangkok (RJ)  
19:45 ... Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)  
Other Flights (Terminal 2)  
Dep. Amman 8:00 every Mon  
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Mon  
Dep. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Mon  
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Mon

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

## QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

## ARRIVALS

## Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:30 ... Sanaa (RJ)  
07:30 ... Damascus (RJ)  
08:30 ... Jeddah (RJ)  
10:30 ... Riyadh (RJ)  
11:00 ... Beirut (RJ)  
11:15 ... New Delhi (RJ)  
11:25 ... Madrid (RJ)  
17:45 ... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
17:55 ... Cairo (RJ)

## HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAINS

Dep. Amman 8:00 every Mon  
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Mon  
Dep. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Mon  
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Mon

## MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple 550  
Banana 450  
Banana (Makassar) 450  
Cabbage 150  
Carrot 220  
Cauliflower 220  
Cucumbers (large) 150  
Cucumbers (small) 300  
Eggplant 180  
Garlic 600  
Grape Fruit 270  
Green beans 320  
Lemon 150  
Marrow (large) 150  
Marrow (small) 320  
Mint 450  
Orange 400  
Onion (dry) 400  
Onion (green





**NEW OFFICERS OF THE LAW:** Her Royal Highness Princess Basma presents certificates to graduating policewomen who completed the requirements of officer training. Speaking at a special graduation ceremony, Princess Basma voiced pride in Jordanian policewomen and called on them to set an example for the country's young girls. The graduation ceremony was attended by Interior Minister Saleh Hamad, Public Security Department (PSD) Director Gen. Abdul Rahman Al Adwan, Commander of the Policewomen Captain Kifa Halasa and senior public security officers. Also Sunday Princess Basma received Mrs. Berri, wife of speaker of Lebanese parliament, Nabih Berri, who is currently on a visit to Jordan. Princess Basma reviewed with Mrs. Berri the achievements made by Jordanian women and the efforts being made to activate the role of women in the Kingdom. The Princess also briefed Mrs. Berri on the National Strategy for Women (Petra photo)

## Jordan supports Lebanon's sovereignty — Majali

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Sunday said Jordan was intent on maintaining close contacts and coordination with all the Arab parties to the Middle East peace process, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and seeks to unify Arab countries' stand vis-a-vis issues facing the Arab nation.

Speaking at a meeting in his office with visiting Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, Dr. Majali said the Kingdom supports Lebanon, its sovereignty and territorial integrity, and its just cause, and backs the country against dangers and repeated aggressions on its southern regions, stressed the prime minister.

Referring to the Middle East peace process, Dr. Majali reiterated Jordan's stand with regard to a durable and

comprehensive settlement that would guarantee the rights of all Arab parties.

For his part, Mr. Berri voiced Lebanon's appreciation of the Jordanian stand and its support for Lebanon.

He said Lebanon's main concern at present was to reestablish security and stability, adding that the Lebanese government has adopted a plan to re-build the country's infrastructure which sustained severe damage during the civil war.

Mr. Berri said Beirut was determined to reconstruct the devastated parts of southern Lebanon which, he said, are still exposed to Israel's repeated acts of aggression.

Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, Taher Masri, Minister of State for Legal Affairs Khaled Al Zou'bi and Jordan's Ambassador to Lebanon Fathi Abu Talch and Lebanon's Ambas-



Speaker of the Senate Ahmad Lawzi Sunday meets with speaker of the Lebanese Parliament Nabih Berri (centre) who is on a visit to Jordan (Petra photo)

sador to Jordan were present at the meeting.

Mr. Berri later met with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Lawzi and voiced his country's condemnation of the February Hebron massacre and Israel's repeated attacks on southern Lebanon.

Mr. Berri called for the creation of a joint Jordanian-Lebanese parliamentary committee to serve as a nucleus for a larger gathering of Arab parliamentarians to work towards consolidating inter-Arab relations.

## U.S. adds \$3.4m to aid package

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz, U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Wesley W. Egan and William T. Oliver, director of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Jordan, Sunday signed amendments to two agreements providing an additional \$3.4 million in economic assistance to Jordan, according to a U.S. embassy statement.

The first amendment, to the Technical Services and Feasibility Studies (TSFS) Project agreement, provides an additional grant of \$2 million, raising the total financing to this project to \$19.5 million, said the statement.

The TSFS Project assists the government of Jordan and the private sector in improving the efficiency of services provided in a wide range of sectors, said the embassy.

In the fields of water, environment and health, the TSFS Project contributed to the design for the upgrading of Al Samra Wastewater Stabilisation Ponds and provided technical assistance to Al Amal National Cancer Centre as well as to the establishment of the National Blood Bank branch in West Amman; in the field of tourism promotion, the TSFS partially financed the restoration of the Amman Citadel, the development of the Madaba Tourism Park, the excavations of the Byzantine church in Petra, and the renovation of the resthouses in Pella and Umm Qais in the north of Jordan.

In the field of housing and urban development, the TSFS financed the procurement of a geographical information sys-

tem and the 1994 National Housing Survey for the Housing and Urban Development Corporation.

A second amendment, said the statement, on the Agricultural Marketing Development Project provides an additional U.S. contribution of \$1.4 million, raising the total financing to this project to \$3.3 million dollars.

The Agricultural Market Development Project, which is being implemented by the Agricultural Marketing Organisation (AMO) and the newly established Exporters Association, aims at increasing fruit and vegetable exports by providing farmers with expertise in quality improvement, crop diversification and identification of export markets opportunities, the statement said.

## Former Egyptian minister suggests options to achieve solidarity through economic forces

By Natasha Bukhari  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Arabs have a better chance now than ever before to achieve unity and solidarity, according to former Egyptian Minister of Economy Mustafa Al Sa'id.

Talking about "Arab economy and the challenges of peace" at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Dr. Al Sa'id Saturday said that if Arabs join economic forces, they have the chance to contain the Israeli economy and use it to their (Arabs') advantage.

He stressed, however, the need for Arabs to study their position vis-a-vis the global

economy to benefit as much as possible from the peace process.

The lecturer said that Arabs have two options to advance their economy in the post peace stage; the first would be to take a neutral stand towards Israel in terms of economic exchange, the other alternative, according to Dr. Sa'id would be to establish joint market forces with the Israelis, "assuming that the peace process does succeed," explained Dr. Sa'id.

The economist warned that Israel would probably try to monopolise the Arab economy, but that Arabs have to "play the game very careful-

ly" in order to be able to face up to the coming challenges.

"Arabs have to strongly support the Palestinian and Jordanian economic status to prevent Israel from taking over the area's market," said Dr. Sa'id.

The lecturer's optimism, he said, comes from his belief that peace will make Arabs more aware of the necessity to join forces and would finally form an economic ideology parallel to that of the West, he concluded.

Dr. Sa'id warned Arabs against rushing into a unified Middle Eastern market at this stage and said the Arabs were not as well equipped to oppose any Israeli attempt to

control a possible joint Middle Eastern market, especially that it (Israel) will receive support from the U.S. and the West.

"To achieve the results we want in the proposed Middle Eastern joint market, we have to first set a strategy by which we can guarantee the dominance of the Arab market," said Dr. Sa'id, adding that it was important for Arabs now to think rationally and prevent sentimentality from affecting their judgement at this "crucial" stage.

Reactions of participants to the lecture varied from appreciative to harshly critical. "How can you talk about an Arab economy; it is non-

existent and a farce," charged one attendee.

Dr. Sa'id, however, maintained that an Arab economy cannot be brushed off just because it is currently disintegrated. He added that Arabs have excellent material and human resources that, if utilised properly, would enable their economies to bloom.

The lecturer concluded that economic integration is essential for Arabs, not only for financial gains, but also for achieving political stability. Dr. Sa'id called on all Arabs to make use of this transitional period and arm themselves to face up to the challenges ahead.

## IAF, NAF parties call for end to passiveness on violence in Egypt

By Natasha Bukhari  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Islamic Action Front (IAF) and the National Action Front (NAF) Saturday urged all Egyptian, Arab and Islamic parties to end their "passive attitude" towards the ongoing violence in Egypt.

"What's going on in Egypt is very dangerous because violence breeds more violence and deprives people of their stability and deepens feelings of hatred among citizens of the same country," warned the IAF and the NAF in an open statement to the people of Egypt and Egyptian political parties and unions.

The two parties agreed that the "destructive" violent crimes committed by extremists in Egypt will lead to the destruction of Egypt's economy and freeze any development plans in that country, rendering it vulnerable and prey to "opportunists' claws."

"We as Islamists are pained by what is going on, and we call upon the Egyptian government to deny the current situation and initiate negotiations

with the parties concerned to try and contain this problem," said Hamzeh Mansour, IAF Lower House spokesman in a telephone interview with the Jordan Times on Sunday.

The deputy added that it was the responsibility of all Egyptian nationalists to exert pressure on their government to seek the best interest of the people. The Egyptian government, he added, "should have enough common sense to realise that it is time to talk to citizens," in order to pinpoint the reasons behind these "daily massacres" and study the circumstances that prompted the outbreak of violence.

In the joint statement, the IAF and NAF accused the Egyptian government of dictatorship. It said the Cairo government does not give other parties the freedom to express their opinions or move under the country's legal umbrella, which, added the statement, causes frustration among the masses.

The two parties also accused the U.S. and Israel of escalating the violence in Egypt by steering away from that country's attempts at reform be-

cause they (the U.S. and Israel) realise that Egypt is the heart of the Arab World, and instability there would obstruct development in the Arab World.

Mr. Mansour said that the IAF and NAF are using the media as their means of communication with Egypt's people as he explained, the Egyptian's political parties' situation does not allow for immediate contact.

He added that if their Saturday statement causes a positive response from nationalists and Islamists in Egypt, the IAF and NAF will be "more than glad" to offer help by sending a delegation to Egypt to assist in establishing bridges of communication between conflicting parties there.

The IAF and the NAF warned of the seriousness of the situation in Egypt and said that it could be "contagious." "Therefore, it is the duty of every devout Muslim and Arab to do whatever possible to help end this bloodshed in order to secure a decent living for the next generations," concluded the joint statement.

## Paris-based Arab cultural institute cannot be receptacle of political unity — visiting official

By Sa'eda Kilani  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — At the Arab World Institute (IMA) in Paris, Arabs can have the luxury of expressing their opinions freely but they should not expect it to become a receptacle of Arab political unity, according to IMA president Edgar Pisani.

"Arabs would want the institute to make the Arab World appear as a homogeneous culture... but political reality dictates otherwise," Mr. Pisani said Saturday at a seminar held at the Royal Cultural Centre. "I have even been asked to prepare for a huge Arab cultural event that the Arab countries

themselves were not able to host."

The Arab World Institute (Institut Du Monde Arabe) was established in Paris in 1987. It includes a museum, an information centre, an audio-visual section, a permanent exhibition displaying works of art, as well as a data bank for information about cultural activities in the Arab World and France.

Mr. Pisani, former minister, senator and deputy, was critical of the divisions that plague the Arab World and which have their negative implications on all domains, especially in the cultural field. He pointed out that the absence of one unified Arab

cultural authority makes the IMA task more difficult.

He also criticised what he saw as an unclear message the Islamists are spreading throughout the world. He criticised the Islamists' referring to a response to a book for children by a Tunisian author in which the stories of the Koran were animated, which led to the banning of the book in France.

He also criticised what he termed the attitude of Islamists towards culture and modernism.

"It is a major concern: We hear voices that the Arab World is heading form modernism but there are also voices that reflect another image," he said.

Mr. Pisani, who is on a current visit to Jordan, said he hoped to enhance cultural relations between the IMA and cultural institutions in the country.

Although he twice refused to comment on the financial difficulties the institute is facing, he stressed that IMA is preparing several projects that aim at promoting Arab civilisation and culture in the West.

One of the projects the institute is currently undertaking involves the exhibition of archaeological and historical monuments of each Arab country for a duration of two years in Paris.

"The objective is to pre-

sent to the Western public the rich cultural heritage of the Arab World," he said adding that the exhibition on Syria, which is currently being held at the Paris-based institute, is expected to attract more than 400,000 visitors.

Presenting an overall view of the institute's works, books, exhibitions and activities, Mr. Pisani said he hoped the IMA will become one of the most important cultural centres to reflect Arab civilisation in the West.

"Between six and eight hundred readers frequent our libraries every day," he said. "If we have the means, we could attract more."

## Video game centres to be scrutinised

AMMAN (J.T.) — Some video game centres in Jordan are causing concern among the authorities because they have been transformed from "innocent recreational centres" into places that lead to social disintegration and immoral behaviour among youth, said Minister of Social Development Mohammad Sgour Sunday.

Some of these centres have actually contributed to students dropping out of school and juvenile delinquency because many teenagers have been frequenting these places without parental approval, said

Dr. Sgour.

In addition, he said, one of the video game centres which offer snookers, billiards and flippers have become a meeting place for gambling teenagers.

It was discovered that some of these centres have been operating without a licence, others have not been abiding by regulations, and some are located near places of worship or schools, according to Dr. Sgour.

He said the Ministry of Social Development can only cooperate with other concerned departments to relocate

some of these centres, organise the licensing process and work out stricter regulations to ensure that they are safe for youth.

Dr. Sgour said that a meeting to be attended by representatives of the ministries of interior, youth and industry and trade in addition to other concerned authorities to discuss the situation will be held Monday.

He said he was calling for a halt to issuing licences for new centres until a new set of regulations governing these centres has been issued including heavy penalties for violators.

### HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

#### King congratulates Syria, Zimbabwe

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a cable to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, congratulating him on Syria's Independence Day. King Hussein wished President Assad continued good health and happiness and the Syrian people further progress and prosperity. Also Sunday, the King sent a cable to Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe congratulating him on his country's national day and wishing him continued good health and happiness and the people of Zimbabwe further progress and prosperity.

#### Sharif Zeid returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Sunday returned home after a short visit to Yemen during which he conveyed messages from His Majesty King Hussein to Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Vice President Ali Salem Al Beidh. The message dealt with the Jordanian efforts to find a way out of the political crisis in Yemen and means of implementing the reconciliation accord signed in Amman last February.

### WHAT'S GOING ON

#### FILM

★ Film in French entitled "La Controverse De Valladolid" at the French Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

#### LECTURES

★ Lecture entitled "Jordan's Living History: Wild Flowers" by Dr. Dawud Al Elswi at the Friends of Archaeology headquarters at 7:00 p.m.

★ "Special" recording by poet Omar Abu Rishah at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture at 7:00 p.m.

#### MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

★ A one-hour show of a videotaped variety of classical music at the student multi-purpose building at the University of Jordan (12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.)

#### EXHIBITIONS

★ Exhibition by artist Mustafa Al Hallaj at Balaadna Art Gallery, Gardens St. (Tel. 687598).

★ Child Needs Expo at the International Anto Exhibition, Airport Road (Tel. 653854).

★ Plastic art exhibition by artist Ali Mimrat at the Royal Cultural Centre.

★ Art exhibition by artist Latifa Yousef at the Royal Cultural Centre.

★ Exhibition by artists Ali Ammoura, Dorothy Maniga, Hind Naser, Janine Saaf, Lucy Marto, Tete Wegelins at Ab'ad Art Gallery (10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.) (Tel. 819861).

★ Exhibition of calligraphy at Orfali Art Gallery (Tel. 826932).

★ Paintings exhibition by Jordanian and Lebanese artists Jamal Khamis and Jehad Abu Suleiman at Alins Art Gallery (9:30 - 13:30, 15:00-18:00) (Tel. 639303).

★ Graphics exhibition by artist Burhan Saleh Mohammad at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture (Tel. 695291).

★ Book exhibition at the International Exhibition Centre, University Road.

★ Engraving exhibition by artist Jean-Pierre Fincemin at the French Cultural Centre.

★ Exhibition by Jordanian and Iraqi artists at the Italian Language Centre (9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.) (Tel. 669348).

★ "Spring Exhibition 1994" at the Jordan Plastic Art Association Gallery (Tel. 699914).

★ Jordanian-Iraqi contemporary exhibition by over 80 artists at Aln Art Gallery in Wadi Saqra (9:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m.) (Tel. 644451).

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# Jordan Times

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## Occasion for Jerusalem

TODAY MARKS the day when Jordan and the rest of the Arab and Muslim countries will celebrate the completion of renovation work on the Dome of the Rock Mosque in Jerusalem. It is not only the fact that the restoration took 21 months at the personal expense of His Majesty King Hussein that makes the occasion especially important. The symbolism involved, both religious and political, cannot be overlooked since the Dome of the Rock is the third holiest place of worship in Islam and Jerusalem occupies a special place for all the three monotheistic religions.

With Israel busy consolidating its hold on the whole city of Jerusalem in violation of all U.N. General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, the bold decision by His Majesty to renovate the mosque and restore it to its original beauty can only add significance to the occasion.

King Hussein's move to restore the Dome of the Rock at a critical time in the history of Jerusalem deserves not only praise but also recognition by the Arab and Muslim worlds. It is not only the King's personal investment that is important in this endeavour but also the religious and political will that signifies the unwavering commitment to keep Jerusalem Arab and (holy) to Muslims and Christians alike for all times.

This initiative must therefore be emulated to expand Arab presence and investment in the city. Restoration of Arab monuments, both religious and historical, needs to be complemented with an effective drive to support East Jerusalem, especially when Israel is treating the Arab part of the city as some kind of slum area that can be ignored in a bid to choke it to death and drive its people away from it. Even at this time when East Jerusalem is still occupied by Israel and the prospects of its liberation look to be tortuous and painstaking, Arab concern needs to be ascertained and manifested clearly.

But above all, today's occasion must serve to unite the Arab Nation on the issue of Jerusalem. As King Hussein has repeatedly reminded the world, Jerusalem has many dimensions which include, inter alia, Arab and Islamic ties over and above its Palestinian character. Jordan's historic and special relation to the city as custodian of its Islamic religious shrines has been both a privilege and great responsibility which have been shouldered bravely throughout the past five decades.

There is no more fitting way therefore to conclude the celebrations of today than by reminding the international community that much as Jerusalem means to the Jews it is big enough to unite the Arabs and Muslims as well over it.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE ISRAELI government is living a real crisis of its own making and is trying to put the blame on others through threats and fabricated accusations, said Al Rai's Arabic daily Sunday. Through its attempts to deal with each and every Arab state separately from the others, through the atrocities it has been committing in Palestine and through its delay in implementing U.N. resolutions, the Israeli government has not only exposed its intentions of holding on to the occupied Arab lands but has also manifested its anti-peace policies, said the paper. The sudden and unjustified escalation of Israeli threats against the Kingdom reflects the Israeli government's impotence to deal with the events at hand, and point to the fact that the Israelis are bent on "murdering" the peace process, said the daily. By shifting the blame for the upsurge of violence on Jordan, said the paper, Israel is thus trying desperately to find a scapegoat for its failure to control the rising rebellion of the Palestinian people. The only way to speed up a solution for the whole problem and end the bloodshed, added the daily, lies in Israel's prompt response to the requirements of peace, said the daily. If, said the paper, the threats are meant to subject Jordan to Israel's will, this objective can never be achieved.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dastour daily criticised the Municipality of Amman for what he said is negligence of cleaning services at the Birds Garden and the King Abdullah Gardens. Mohammad Daoud said that in addition to the litter which is of course left behind by the visitors, the two public gardens are full of common flies and other insects harmful to the visiting children. From the way the two public places look, said the writer, people employed by the municipality to clean them seldom call at the site to clean the waste and litter, and seldom municipal inspectors care to pass by and examine the situation.

By Ibrahim Matar

THROUGHOUT ITS history, Jerusalem was a united city, and from the 7th century to May, 1948, an Arab city run by a Palestinian Muslim mayor.

However, from May 1948 to the present, the city of Jerusalem has been witnessing a process of Judaisation accomplished by the dispossession and uprooting of its indigenous Christian and Muslim Palestinian populations and their replacement by exclusively Jewish foreign immigrants.

This displacement of Palestinians from the Holy City has been achieved in two stages. The first stage occurred in May 1948, when the Jews occupied all of what came to be known as West Jerusalem, evicted by force its 60,000 Palestinian inhabitants, and physically took over their villages, homes and lands.

The second stage took place after the Jewish occupation of East Jerusalem in the 1967 war, when the Jewish state annexed its Eastern part and began a process of colonisation by confiscating private Palestinian property and building on such lands exclusively Jewish residential fortress colonies. As the result of the above, today the Jewish state is in complete control of the city, yet most of the property and real estate built up for the Jews still legally belongs to the indigenous Palestinians who have been living continuously in Jerusalem for centuries and centuries.

Post May 1948: Up-rooting of Palestinians from West Jerusalem:

The traumatic events of April, May and July of 1948 turned the 60,000 Palestinian residents evicted from what became known as Jewish West Jerusalem into permanent exiles and displaced persons. This civilian Palestinian population was forced out of its homes and cities by a deliberate wave of terror attacks for the purpose of ethnically cleansing non-Jews from West Jerusalem. The most infamous of these acts committed by Jewish terrorist organisations was the massacre of civilians in Deir Yassin, a small village at the outskirts of Jerusalem and the blowing up of the Semiramis Hotel in the Palestinian neighbourhood of Katamon in West Jerusalem.

The seizure of Palestinian property in what came to be known as West Jerusalem was carried out in two phases. Henry Cattani, a well-known Palestinian international lawyer, wrote on this issue:

"Palestinian property which was described as 'absentee property' was seized under the Absentee Property Regulations of 1948 and vested in the Custodian of Absentee Property who was given the power to administer the property, but not to sell it nor lease it for a period exceeding five years. Then in 1950, Israel took the next step, namely the confiscation of this property. This was achieved by the Absentee Property Law (1950) which again vested 'absentee property' in the custodian and authorised him to sell it at its official value to a Development Authority established by the Knesset (Article 19)".

In other words, the Palestinians forced from their homes in West Jerusalem, were not allowed to return and then were made into permanent absentees and their property sold by the so-called "custodian" for the benefit of Jews only. This process can be only described as "legalised theft" of Palestinian property. Under these laws, even the Palestinians who were evicted from West Jerusalem in 1948 and today are present and live in "annexed East Jerusalem" and hold Israeli identity cards cannot claim back their property in West Jerusalem. They are called the "present absentees".

First, a brief description of the Palestinian villages seized and depopulated in 1948, the property and lands of which were in corporate into the West Jerusalem municipal boundaries, is given hereunder:

1. Lifta and Sheikh Badr villages, and all its surrounding agricultural lands to the north of Jerusalem. Land ownership in 1948 in this village was distributed as follows:

Palestinian 7780 dunums (1,945 acres)  
Jewish 756 dunums (189

acres)  
Public 207 dunums (52 acres)  
Total 8743 dunums (2,186 acres)

In other words, Palestinians owned 89 per cent of the land, the Jews 9 per cent and the rest was public.

Today, some of the old homes of this village remain abandoned while the newer ones are inhabited by Jews. The village high school building is now used as a Jewish religious site. A number of modern hotels such as the Sonesta and the Hilton are built on the property of Lifta. However, more importantly, most of the official Israeli government ministries are built on Lifta land. This includes the Israeli Knesset building, the Prime Minister's offices, and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Interior. In fact, the Israeli Knesset is built upon the private property of the Khalaf family from the village of Lifta now living as "present absentees" in the Sheikh Jarrah quarter of East Jerusalem.

2. Deir Yassin and surrounding agricultural lands. The land ownership in 1948 in this village was distributed as follows:

Palestinian 2701 dunums (675 acres)  
Jewish 153 dunums (38 acres)  
Public 3 dunums (.75 acre)  
Total 2857 dunums (704 acres)

In other words, Palestinians owned 95 per cent of the land, the Jews the remaining 5 per cent.

This small village located in the northwest of West Jerusalem had a population of 900 people in 1948. On April 9, 1948, it was attacked by the Jewish terror organisation "Irgun Zvi Leumi" led by Menachem Begin. By noon that fateful day, the village fell into Jewish hands, who subsequently committed the infamous massacre by murdering women, children, elderly and wounded who were unable to leave the village. Today the houses in the centre of the village are used as a sanatorium for mentally ill Jews, run by the Israeli Ministry of Health.

The village cemetery has been bulldozed and covered by a road leading to a new Jewish residential settlement built on the lands owned by the villagers of Deir Yassin. The stone quarries that Deir Yassin was famous for have now become an industrial zone being built upon by Jewish industries. The two-room elementary school building of the village is now the home of Chabad Lubavitch.

3. Ein Karem and surrounding agricultural terraces located to the west of Jerusalem were incorporated into the municipal boundaries of West Jerusalem as is the case with Lifta and Deir Yassin. Land ownership in 1948 in this village was distributed as follows:

Palestinian 13,449 dunums (3,362 acres)  
Jewish 1,362 dunums (340 acres)  
Public 218 dunums (25 acres)  
Total 15,029 dunums (3,757 acres)

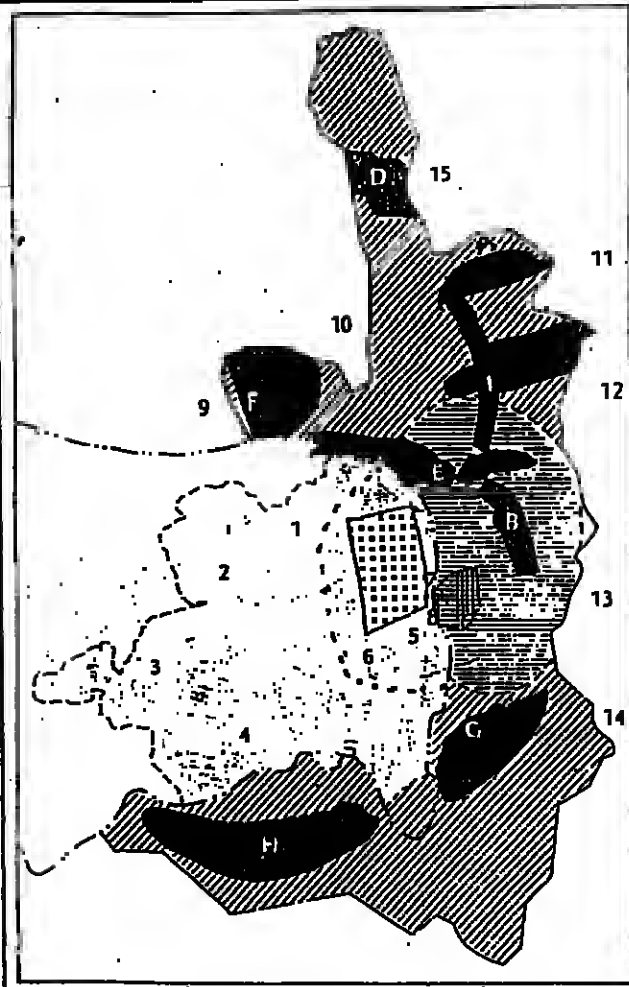
In other words, Palestinians owned 90 per cent, the Jews 9 per cent and the rest was public.

In 1948, this village had a population of 4,500 predominantly Christian Catholic Palestinians, as Ein Karem is the birthplace of John the Baptist. In 1948, all the inhabitants of the village were forced to leave. Today, the village houses are all inhabited by Jews. The churches that still exist in the village have become museums without any congregations. The Jewish Hadassah Hospital is built on the lands of this village. Finally, it is one of the major ironies in history, that Yad Vashem, a memorial for the Jewish victims of the Nazis, is built on the terraced land of the dispossessed, exiled and involuntarily "absentee" Palestinians of Ein Karem.

This Jewish memorial in Ein Karem testifies to the fact that the Palestinians are in fact the last victims of Hitler, as they had to pay the price with their villages, lands and country (Palestine) for the establishment of the Jewish state.

4. Malha was the second largest of the four villages after Ein Karem, located to the south of Jerusalem, with a population of 3,000 Palestinians.

Land ownership in 1948 in this village was distributed as follows:



Palestinian 5,798 dunums (1,449 acres)  
Jewish 922 dunums (231 acres)  
Public 108 dunums (27 acres)  
Total 6,828 dunums (1,707 acres)

In other words, Palestinians owned 85 per cent, the Jews 13 per cent and the rest public.

All the Palestinians in this village were forced out of their homes in April and July. Today, the village homes are inhabited by Jews. A Jewish home has been built on the village mosque. Jewish settlements, including the Jerusalem Stadium and the recently opened Jerusalem Mall.

The magnitude of this usurpation of Palestinian property in pre-1948 modern West Jerusalem can be appreciated when it is realised that the Palestinians owned 40 per cent of new Jerusalem, the Jews 26.12 per cent and the rest belonged to Christian and Muslim communities.

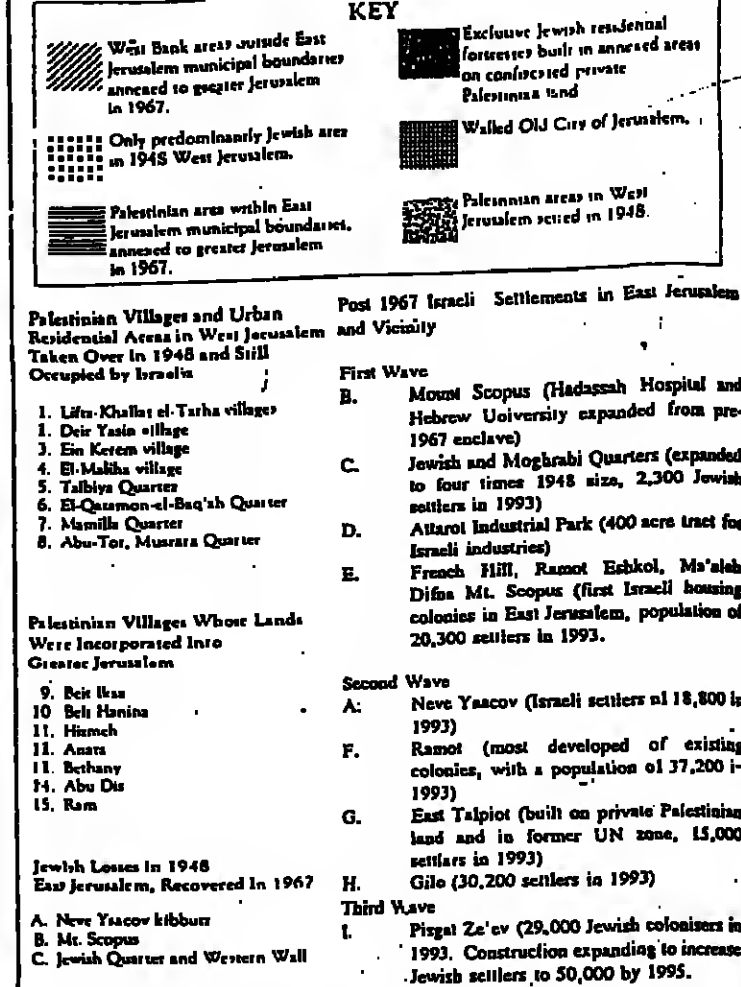
Thus 90 per cent of the sum total of the land areas of these four villages that have been occupied by the Jews in 1948 and annexed to West Jerusalem Municipality belong to the Palestinians. A total of almost 30,000 dunums (7,500 acres) today have been built upon by the Jews and constitute most of the Jewish residential areas of West Jerusalem.

In addition to these four villages that were annexed to the municipality of West Jerusalem in 1948, Palestinians were also evicted from most of the urban residential neighbourhoods or quarters under Jewish control in 1948. These urban neighbourhoods include the following: Upper and Lower Bagdad, Katamon, Talbich, Mamilla and Shamsa, part of Abu Tor, Musarra and part of Rehavia.

These residential areas were part of new Jerusalem developed by the Palestinians, outside the walls of the Old City, at the beginning of this century. They had mixed communities of Christian and Muslim Palestinians, mostly middle class, and fairly well-to-do, such as doctors, lawyers, merchants and civil servants working with the government of Palestine under the British Mandate. These urban neighbourhoods or quarters were fully developed with modern private residences, villas, stores, offices, workshops and family cottage industries.

In April and May, 1948, after the civilian Palestinian population was forced to leave all the above mentioned neighbourhoods were completely taken over. This included several thousands fully furnished apartments, stores, offices etc. Today, the Jews are living in these Palestinian homes, using Palestinian stores and office buildings. Some of these Palestinian houses were turned into Jewish religious schools or small private hospitals.

In the Mamilla quarter, part of the Mamilla Muslim



Cemetery was turned into the Israeli Independence Park and an outstanding building owned by the Muslim Awwaf or Trust, which housed in the 1930's the first Palestinian Theatre, is today the Israeli Ministry of Trade and Industry. The residence of the Israeli president is built on Palestinian property in the previously Palestinian quarter of Talbich.

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On June 22, 1967, the Jewish state formally annexed occupied East Jerusalem by extending over the city the law, jurisdiction and administration of Israel. Since the annexation and up to the present, the Jewish state continues to Judaize the city and take measures that affect the lives and property of the Palestinian indigenous population of East Jerusalem. These measures are summarised as follows:

1. Walled Old City of East Jerusalem: Shortly after the fighting ended in June of 1967, Jewish bulldozers began bulldozing over 135 homes. This action made its 650 inhabitants homeless in the Islamic Mughrabi (Moroccan) quarter, to make way for a plaza next to the Wailing Wall, which is part of the Western Wall of the Muslim Dome of the Rock compound belongs to the Muslims. Henry Cattani writes:

"Following the bloody riots in 1929 over an incident at the Wailing Wall, an international commission was appointed in 1931 by the British Mandate, with the approval of the League of Nations, to inquire into the rights over the Wailing Wall. The commission found that the ownership of the wall accrues to the Muslims and the pavement in front of the wall where the Jews perform their devotions, is also Muslim property."

From the above, it is clear that most of the areas that constitute now part of the West Jerusalem municipal boundaries in fact belong to the Palestinians, be it the Palestinian villages that were incorporated into the municipal boundaries of West Jerusalem after 1948 or the Palestinian urban developed quarters that formed in 1948 part of modern West Jerusalem. Furthermore, despite that, Palestinians were made into permanent absentees by Israeli law, even though many of them are present today in East Jerusalem. This property legally still belongs to the Palestinians as title in the land registries are still in the name of the Palestinian original owners.

It is pertinent to point out here that Jewish ownership of land in 1948 in the Jerusalem district, which extended from Jericho and the Jordan River to the east, the Latrun Monastery at the beginning of the coastal plains to the west, did not exceed 2 per cent of the land, while Palestinians owned 84 per cent of the land and the remaining 14 per cent was public. This is according to land ownership records by subdistricts in Palestine in 1945 shown in the accompanying map.

Post June 1967 annexation and colonisation of East Jerusalem:

The June war of 1967, brought the eastern part of Jerusalem including the walled Old City under Israeli occupation. Shortly thereafter, the Jewish state began a series of measures intended not only to maintain Jewish control of the city and its Palestinian population, but also to change its demographic characters by moving civilian Jews to the occupied part by building exclusively Jewish residential fortress colonies on confiscated private Palestinian property.

What follows is a brief account of the measures and policies adopted by the Israeli government in occupied East Jerusalem since June of 1967.

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On June 22, 1967, the Jewish state formally annexed occupied East Jerusalem by extending over the city the law, jurisdiction and administration of Israel. Since the annexation and up to the present, the Jewish state continues to Judaize the city and take measures that affect the lives and property of the Palestinian indigenous population of East Jerusalem. These measures are summarised as follows:

1. Walled Old City of East Jerusalem: Shortly after the fighting ended in June of 1967, Jewish bulldozers began bulldozing over 135 homes. This action made its 650 inhabitants homeless in the Islamic Mughrabi (Moroccan) quarter, to make way for a plaza next to the Wailing Wall, which is part of the Western Wall of the Muslim Dome of the Rock compound belongs to the Muslims. Henry Cattani writes:

"Following the bloody riots in 1929 over an incident at the Wailing Wall, an international commission was appointed in 1931 by the British Mandate, with the approval of the League of Nations, to inquire into the rights over the Wailing Wall. The commission found that the ownership of the wall accrues to the Muslims and the pavement in front of the wall where the Jews perform their devotions, is also Muslim property."

From the above, it is clear that most of the areas that constitute now part of the West Jerusalem municipal boundaries in fact belong to the Palestinians, be it the Palestinian villages that were incorporated into the municipal boundaries of West Jerusalem after 1948 or the Palestinian urban developed quarters that formed in 1948 part of modern West Jerusalem. Furthermore, despite that, Palestinians were made into permanent absentees by Israeli law, even though many of them are present today in East Jerusalem. This property legally still belongs to the Palestinians as title in the land registries are still in the name of the Palestinian original owners.

It is pertinent to point out here that Jewish ownership of land in 1948 in the Jerusalem district, which extended from Jericho and the Jordan River to the east, the Latrun Monastery at the beginning of the coastal plains to the west, did not exceed 2 per cent of the land, while Palestinians owned 84 per cent of the land and the remaining 14 per cent was public. This is according to land ownership records by subdistricts in Palestine in 1945 shown in the accompanying map.

Post June 1967 annexation and colonisation of East Jerusalem:

The June war of 1967, brought the eastern part of Jerusalem including the walled Old City under Israeli occupation. Shortly thereafter, the Jewish state began a series of measures intended not only to maintain Jewish control of the city and its Palestinian population, but also to change its demographic characters by moving civilian Jews to the occupied part by building exclusively Jewish residential fortress colonies on confiscated private Palestinian property.

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## Majali: No separate peace

(Continued from page 1)

political organisation enters the occupied Palestinian territories and that the Palestinian people restore their legitimate rights on their national soil," he said. "It is then the kind of relation between Jordan and the Palestinians will be determined."

On Jerusalem, Dr. Majali said while PLO officials had

agreed to discuss the issue of Jerusalem in the second phase of talks, Jordan believed that Jerusalem is the major problem, given the current state of inter-Arab division. "There is no peace without Jerusalem," Dr. Majali said.

On recent incidents aimed at destabilising security and stability in the country, Dr. Majali said perpetrators of these crimes were trained abroad to use arms.

## Senate hails King's stands

(Continued from page 1)

ing the elements that cause tension and further deterioration of the situation.

Jordan has always fought hard against terrorism and has paid dearly with the blood of its citizens while firmly confronting terrorism.

Jordan has always proved to be firmly opposed to violence as a tool in political action, and the country's long history attests to that because the Kingdom has been working towards the establishment of just peace.

Had all parties responded favourably to Jordan's endeavours, the Middle East region would have been in a better situation and its peoples would have long been saved from the vicious cycle of violence.

Based on these facts, Jordan strongly rejects any accusation directed at it for allegedly being lenient with or condoning terrorism. Jordan considers such accusations as groundless serving as a prelude to justify aggressive pressures on the Kingdom like the unjust blockade imposed on the port of Aqaba.

Such a pressure is designed to force the Kingdom to change its national stand and

policies aimed at the fulfilment of a just and durable peace.

King Hussein has reaffirmed the basic principles of the Jordanian policy and its commitment to and recognition of the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and hence its determination to deal with no alternate organisations or allow any of them to operate from Jordanian territory.

This policy is adopted in order to extend backing to the Palestinian people's unity and support this people's legitimate institutions which symbolise the Palestinian people's continued and organised struggle to regain their rights.

Jordan will not allow any party to harm the Palestinian people's unity or the Jordanian political stand with regard to the PLO as this stand conforms to and runs in harmony with the Kingdom's keenness on unifying Arab ranks and removing contradictions that threaten the very foundation of the Arab Nation and its future generations.

The Senate stresses that the Jordanian people, regardless of their origins, stand firm and united behind their King in defence of the homeland, its sovereignty and stability.

## Israel has peace plan for Syria

(Continued from page 1)

vital on the Golan.

Security arrangements including demilitarised areas. The arrangements would be mutual but not symmetrical. The demilitarised area on Syria's side would be deeper than the one on Israel's side.

Israel's demands of Washington include more U.S. stationing of weapons and ammunition in Israel and of supply ships for U.S. forces

dedicated to the Gulf and Balkans near Israel's coast and increased use by the U.S. Sixth Fleet of Israel's Haifa port.

Israel would also ask Washington to keep military aid at its present level of \$1.8 billion annually.

Haaretz said Mr. Christoffer was expected to visit Israel on April 28. Israeli officials said no firm date had been set but he was likely to visit at the end of the month during a Middle East peace shuttle.

## Israel warns PLO over Hamas

(Continued from page 1)

permitted to continue attacks within Israel after self-rule begins, Israel Radio reported Sunday, citing Palestinian sources. The PLO had so far rejected the demand, the radio said.

A meeting arranged by Egypt between Mr. Arafat and a Hamas leader, Ibrahim Abu Marzouk, in Sudan last year collapsed with Mr. Arafat rejecting Hamas demands for a large share of power in the PLO. There have been no known attempts since then to reconcile the two groups on basic issues.

However, a senior Fatah official told the AP there had been talks with Hamas about local issues such as how to handle land disputes, control welfare institutions, share power in the Gaza municipality and prevent friction between Hamas and the PLO.

"The message is basically we need no hoodlums," the official said, who demanded anonymity. He said there had been about 20 such meetings in recent months.

Sufian Abu Ziad, a top Fatah official in the Gaza Strip, told Israel Radio that there was "nothing new" in the

negotiations but that Fatah rejected any independent Hamas military operations against Israel.

"We know that the purpose of the attacks is to ruin the peace talks so how could we cooperate on them," he said. "Everything that is signed we will carry out, period... Hamas and PLO activists will be arrested if they break laws."

Israel and the PLO have both predicted that the self-rule could be in place by June. An Israeli official, who demanded anonymity, said Israel had no problem with Hamas and Fatah coordinating, as long as it was on the political level.

"If Hamas sees itself as part of the political arena and accepts the authority of the PLO, that's fine," the official said. "If the agreement is the PLO does politics and Hamas does terrorism, I don't see the Israel-PLO agreement as working out."

Cabinet ministers expressed satisfaction with a decision by Jordan to limit Hamas activities in the Kingdom.

"What we want is for Hamas to be outlawed and not have a capacity to operate in any country which says it wants peaceful relations with Israel," Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein said.

## Kigali carnage continues

(Continued from page 1)

orgy of ethnic violence in Rwanda between the majority Hutu and minority Tutsi tribes who have a long history of enmity. Thousands of people have died.

The United Nations is trying to arrange the burial of thousands of corpses accumulated in the area.

Most of the victims were members of the Tutsi minority slaughtered by Hutu gang members and Hutu-dominated government forces. The rebels who pushed into Kigali on Tuesday are predominantly Tutsi.

Tens of thousands of people have died in the warfare and ethnic butchery that has its roots in a centuries-old struggle for power in Rwanda and Burundi between the Hutu and Tutsi tribes.

More than 4,000 foreigners have been evacuated from Kigali in recent days. Belgium's 420 U.N. peacekeepers in Rwanda can start withdrawing overland

with a convoy of about 150 vehicles on Tuesday, a Belgian armed forces spokesman said. Ten Belgian U.N. peacekeepers were killed by government soldiers when the latest bloodbath exploded. Rwanda gained independence from Belgium in 1962.

Ghanian soldiers would relieve the Belgians at Kigali airport, the Brussels spokesman said.

The airport and certainly the runway could be seriously damaged, so quite a lot of troops could become trapped like rats in a net," Foreign Minister Willy Claes said in Belgium.

A Rwandan officer of the Hutu-dominated army accused unidentified Westerners and Uganda of aiding the mainly Tutsi rebels.

"There were two white bodies found when our forces killed 10 rebels in the north. We cannot explain this," an official said.

## Israel-PLO talks resumed

(Continued from page 1)

have.

Israel wants Israelis of all kinds to be immune from prosecution in the Palestinian courts and is also seeking provisions to protect Palestinians who have collaborated with the Israeli authorities during the 27 years of occupation.

Mr. Dahlan told reporters the PLO was committed to finding a solution for the collaborators and had drawn up a document on it but the subject had not yet come into the talks.

The Palestinians have been trying to win for Gaza and Jericho as many of the attributes of statehood as possible, including judicial independence. Israel tends to slap down these attempts, saying self-rule is limited and temporary.

Israel's opposition leader said Saturday that, if elected prime minister, he would not see himself bound by the autonomy agreement with the PLO.

Benjamin Netanyahu, leader of the right-wing Likud Party, charged that the PLO has repeatedly broken promises made to Mr. Rabin, such as refraining from attacks on Israelis and rescinding its charter.

"This agreement hasn't been valid from the moment the PLO started to cancel it," Mr. Netanyahu said on Israel Radio. "Not because I don't like it, and I don't, but because an agreement that doesn't obligate the PLO certainly doesn't obligate us."

General elections in Israel are scheduled for 1996.

Mr. Netanyahu said that as prime minister he would seek to annex the West Bank and grant the Palestinians limited self-rule.

"We are proposing autonomy for the Arabs under Israeli sovereignty," Mr. Netanyahu said. "Only the Israeli army, and not some army of terrorists, will be the sole body in charge of security in all the area from the Jordan River westwards."

Mr. Netanyahu said he would negotiate the terms of autonomy with Palestinians chosen in elections held under international supervision.

Mr. Netanyahu's predecessor as Likud chief, former Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, had opposed both international supervision of elections and the arming of Palestinian police officers.

## HUMAN RIGHTS FILE

### New wave of sex discrimination plagues Third World

By Waleed Sadi

THE PREFERENCE FOR the male gender in developing countries took a turn to the worst when science and medical technology were consecrated arbitrarily deployed for this purpose. Ultra sound technology has enabled parents to discover the sex of the offspring months before birth and in many countries female fetuses are being summarily aborted. New medical know-how has also enabled would-be parents to select the sex of their children by medical manipulations and chromosome and gene selection that determine whether the child will be a boy or a girl. The problem is particularly acute in India where the normal ratio between males and females has been drastically disrupted in recent years to the advantage of males. Other parts of the developing world are also plagued with this new wave of sex selection. Jordan is also afflicted with this problem, albeit on much smaller scale than other countries

where the male is still viewed as some kind of superior being enjoying more economic potential and cursed by much less social tribulations.

In my estimation, this phenomenon has reached a point where international and state intervention have become necessary. I found myself referring to this issue whenever the Human Rights Committee (HRC), entrusted with the mandate of monitoring the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), meets to consider state reports and individual complaints. Although my colleagues in the HRC are by large of the liberal vintage who often label me as some of "Reagan" appointee due to my conservative position on law and order matters, they are often stunned by my sudden outbursts about the need to regulate this sex selection crisis. My repeated intervention on this subject is beginning to make an impact on some of the 18-member expert group that man the quasi-legal human rights tribunal.

It is unfortunate that the opportunity offered by the 1993 Vienna World Conference on Human Rights was not seized upon to raise this problem at the international level with a view to articulating new principles for adoption as legally binding standards. Once international human rights treaties are amended to reflect this concern, state parties to such human rights instruments can be expected to incorporate such new legal guidelines into their own respective national laws in due course. The Convention on the Right of the Child could be the start of this process where there is no reference to this problem whatsoever except by sheer implication. The Declaration of the Rights of the Child, which was proclaimed by the U.N. General Assembly as far back as 1959, states in its second preamble that "every-one is entitled to all the rights and freedoms... without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, etc." This principle was further expressed in the first operative para-

graph of the Declaration. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 echoed this sentiment when it stated that "everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms... without any distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, etc." Likewise the above mentioned ICCPR talked in the same vein when in its second article it stipulated that "each state party... undertakes to respect and to ensure to all individuals within its jurisdiction the rights recognised in the present Covenant, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, etc." Neither the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 1979 nor the Convention on the Political Rights of Women of 1954 add much to the notion against discrimination against females since they all direct their attention to discrimination after the birth of the female and do nothing to prevent discrimination prior or during conception and be-

fore the birth of children.

This brazen omission in international norms needs to be rectified soon before the crisis reaches new proportions. Once international actions gets underway, states can be expected to follow suit in no time.

Meanwhile, Jordan can take a leadership role in this endeavour by showing the way for ending discrimination against female offsprings. This could be done with relative ease by regulating gender selection and inculminating any violation thereof. There is more to human rights than just formation of political parties or holding periodic national elections. Many other aspects of human rights that are just as important are often neglected or ignored. The right to life of female children is surely very high on the list of priorities of all human rights endeavours and Jordan is uniquely positioned to spearhead the crusade for its protection and promotion as a matter of the highest priority.

## Locusts, rumours of war invade Northern Cape

By Anton Ferreira

SPRINGBOK, South Africa

— Willem Van Jaarsveld sits on the porch of his farm gazing at the locust-swept desert and predicts a future for South Africa as bleak as the landscape before him.

"It's all right for me," the 73-year-old right-winger tells a visitor to his barren farm here in the sparsely populated Northern Cape, one of South Africa's nine new regions.

"My wife and I will not be around much longer. But our children, and their children, will see some ugly things in the new South Africa," he says.

According to opinion polls, this could be one of two regions to be held by the predominantly white National Party, which invented apartheid in 1948 to keep the

black majority at bay but now renounces the policy in its campaign for reelection.

Mr. Van Jaarsveld and others like him will boycott the election, heading the call of the far-right Conservative Party which says the poll is a recipe for a Communist takeover.

Most Northern Cape inhabitants are mixed-race people, classified coloured by apartheid, many of whom feel their destiny lies with President F.W. de Klerk rather than Nelson Mandela, the black hero who leads the African National Congress (ANC).

"A vote for the ANC is a vote for the Kaffirs," said Patrick Ukena, a coloured beggar outside a liquor store in the town of Pofadder, using the South African pejorative for blacks.

"How can the Kaffirs help us coloureds? They've got

nothing. Only the whites can help us. I'm voting for de Klerk."

His companion Nicholas agreed. "I grew up with the Boers (Afrikaners) and I'm going to vote with them."

Many residents of the Northern Cape associate the ANC with the political violence in which thousands of blacks have died, mainly in the provinces of Natal and Transvaal.

The conflict between the ANC and the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party has left their towns unscathed, but some people in the region fear election of an ANC government will lead to full-scale civil war between the ANC, Inkatha and the white right.

"We could be in for trouble if the wrong people win," said National Party supporter Johannes Basson, a coloured petrol station attendant in Pofadder, legendary in South

Africa as the archetypal one-horse town.

"I've got nothing against the ANC itself, but it's together with the Communists," said Mr. Basson, scraping dead locusts from a car that had driven through thick swarms of the insects that are sweeping across the region like a biblical plague.

In the remote Roman Catholic mission station of Pella, an oasis of date palms in the surrounding desert, pro-ANC schoolchildren discuss rumours of threats by white neo-Nazis in the area to attack their hostel if the ANC wins the election.

"They should close our school for a couple of weeks after the election to be on the safe side," one boy said.

U.N. observers based in the region said the level of political tension and intimidation was low relative to the rest of South Africa.

"This is the best part of the country in terms of holding free and fair elections," said the U.N. mission head Riccardo Sheddid from Libya. The election message has stretched even into the Rie-

tersveld, an inaccessible mountain wilderness on the Namibian border where nomads herd goats and Botanists hunt rare succulents.

"Parts of this region are incredibly remote," said one of Mr. Sheddid's colleagues.

"The people don't have electricity, radio or television. The concept of Western democracy is completely new to them."

One of South Africa's many white separatist groups, the Afrikaner People's Institute (Avstig) led by Carel Boshoff, has identified the Northern Cape with its low number of blacks as the most logical site for a Volkstaat.

Mr. Boshoff claims growing support for the idea among the people of the region, but Springbok businessman Jopie Kooze said an Avstig meeting in the town had drawn only 14 people.

"Boshoff might want the Northern Cape, but we're not so sure we want him," said Mr. Kooze.

Pofadder hotel owner Gerrie Brits also rejected the Volkstaat idea.

## To whom Jerusalem belongs

### Delaying negotiations over the Holy City will further complicate the situation

tial fortress settlements would completely encircle physically the 150,000 Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem. Today, the indigenous Palestinian Christians and Muslims find themselves not only encircled by the Jewish residential fortresses or what I call the "New Walls" of Jerusalem, but also outnumbered. A study released by the Jewish Municipality Planning Department as reported in the Jerusalem Post, Aug. 20, 1993, bragging that 152,000 Jewish (illegal) settlers already live in East Jerusalem as compared to 150,600 Palestinians.

The study indicated that the total population of the city is today 564,300 of whom 73 per cent are Jews and 26.7 per cent are Palestinians and more than 1/3 of the Jews in the city now are settled in East Jerusalem. The Jewish Deputy Mayor of West Jerusalem, Avraham Kahila boasted when revealing the study in a press conference, "I want to make Palestinians wake up to the reality and understand that the unification of Jerusalem under Israel sovereignty is irreversible." He did not say that this Jewish majority was achieved by a policy of apartheid and theft of Palestinian property in violation of international law and U.N. resolutions.

In addition to moving civilian Jews to the occupied part of East Jerusalem, the Israeli government has also moved to East Jerusalem, the Israeli Ministries of Housing and Agriculture, the Headquarters of the Border Police, the Headquarters of the Israeli Army Central Command, and the civil courts. The sum total of this process of Judaization leads only to one conclusion: the Jewish state from day one of the occupation of East Jerusalem had no intention of ever withdrawing from the Holy City.

4. Planning Restrictions for

the Palestinians of East Jerusalem: Palestinians living in the so-called unified Jerusalem were not only dispossessed and impoverished for the exclusive benefit of the Jewish population, but were restricted in building on their own land. This was achieved by limiting the number of building licenses to be issued to the Palestinians, by failing to approve the master plan for the Palestinian neighbourhood which would facilitate the issuing of licenses and, finally, by declaring large areas of Palestinian owned lands as "green zones" meaning that Palestinians are not allowed to build on this land.

Sara Kaminker, a member of the Jewish Municipality of West Jerusalem, and a member of a new party recently formed called Peace for Jerusalem, revealed in an article published in the Arabic daily Al Quds, Aug. 1, 1993, the following:

First, that the Jewish Municipality of Jerusalem "paints in green" or creates green zones only from preventing the Palestinians from building on their own land. Second, that the green zones can be conveniently changed when Jews decided to build on this land. She gave the example that in one of the meetings of the Municipality of Jerusalem, Mayor Mr. Kollek declared that a new Jewish neighbourhood is planned to be built on Palestinian land in East Jerusalem planted with trees and declared as a green zone. When Sara Kaminker tried to explain that this would entail destroying trees, Mr. Kollek answered "The only objective in planting that trees is to prevent the Arabs from building on the land until the time comes to build a Jewish quarter."

Kaminker added in this revealing article what Palestinians have known all along that Mayor Kollek had quietly, over the past 26 years of

occupation of East Jerusalem, Judaized the city, and that his future plans are to continue in this path in order to create islands of Palestinian populations encircled by a sea of Jews.

Another example of the Jerusalem Municipality's policies of restricting construction in the Palestinian sector, was the decision it made on Aug. 23, 1993 as published in the Jerusalem Post, Aug. 23, 1993, to delay the construction of an Arab girls' school on the pretext that it might constitute a security threat. The councilors from the Likud, National Religious Party, Haredi factions and Mr. Kollek's representative voted to delay the construction as these factions charged that pupils at the proposed school in Beit Hanina were likely to throw stones at the Jewish settlers of the adjoining settlement of Pisgat Ze'ev. It is worth noting here that Deputy Mayor Ornan Yekntel called the school opponents "racists and Moshe Amirav, a council member from Meretz, said, and I quote "We take most of the land of Beit Hanina to build Pisgat Ze'ev, and then do not even allow them to build a school on what they have left."

This past week, and as reported in Al-Quds newspaper, on Sept. 16, 1993, Jewish Mayor of West Jerusalem, Teddy Kollek, declared after a meeting of the municipal council that no one has done more over the past 26 years than has for the Judaization of Arab Jerusalem. He also declared that he has approved plans to build five more new Jewish settlements in Arab Jerusalem as follows:

— A new Jewish quarter on Abu Ghaneim hill owned by the villagers of Sur Baber and Im Toubas.

— Plans by a private contractor, Aboud Levy, to build 400 housing units on the east-

ern slopes of Jabal Mukkaber.

— Construction of 200 housing units to link the Jewish colonies of Pisgat Ze'ev and Ramat Eshkol on the land of the Palestinian neighbourhood of Shn'afat.

— Expansion of the Jewish industrial zone at Kalandia near the Jerusalem Airport.

— A new Jewish settlement on the land of the Palestinian village of Kufr Akab and the confiscation of an additional 2,000 dunums of Palestinian private property.

Finally, in order to complete the Judaization and Jewish control of East Jerusalem, the Israelis on March 30, 1993 closed access to East Jerusalem, except with permits for Palestinians from the West Bank. The impact of this closure on the Palestinian population has been devastating. It has reduced business in East Jerusalem by 80 per cent and cut the West Bank into three cantons and has limited the access of Christians and Muslims to the holy sites in the city.

Conclusion:

The Israelis declare at every opportunity that their conquest of both West and East Jerusalem is now an accomplished fact that it is the eternal capital of Israel and that it is "not negotiable" under any circumstances. However, I have shown that in fact, the majority of land and properties whether in West or in East Jerusalem still belong to the Palestinian people. Despite the fact that the Jews have seized Palestinian property, built on it by declaring it absentee property in West Jerusalem, and confiscated it for "public purpose" in East Jerusalem, yet title of all this property still lies with the Palestinians.

In the Declaration of Principles on Palestinian self-government recently signed in Washington, negotiations

on the future of Jerusalem has been delayed until after two years, when such negotiations begin on the final status of the Palestinian occupied territories. This delay will only make it more difficult to reach a settlement, as the Jewish authorities are continuing to violate international law and private Palestinian property rights by continuing to expand Jewish colonies and refusing to accept a settlement freeze. Two years from now the Jewish settler population will increase from the present 152,000 to more than 180,000.

However, continuation by the Jews to create new facts should not distract the negotiations from a fair solution to the issue of West and East Jerusalem based on application of international law and U.N. resolutions. Such a solution should be based on the following principles:

— Dismantling all illegal Jewish colonies built in East Jerusalem after June, 1967 and the return of all confiscated property to its legal owners, including what has been built on this land.

— Repatriation of Palestinians to their homes, villages and property in West Jerusalem by changing their status from "absentee" to "present," or compensation for property for those who do not wish to have their property back.

— Return Arab to East and the holy Places.

The writer, who is an economist by training is chairman of the Jerusalem-based Arab Development and Credit Co., a non-profit organisation providing agricultural and industrial loans in the West Bank and Gaza. He has been doing extensive research and studies on Israeli colonisation of the occupied territories. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.



## State sector falls; inflation darkens China economy

BEIJING (R) — China's fight against inflation is being seriously hampered by the need to pump cash into increasingly ailing state firms to keep them afloat, economists said Sunday.

Figures released by the State Statistical Bureau show a wretched performance in the first quarter by the state sector, almost half of whose firms lost money.

The bureau, quoted by the China News Service, said output by state firms grew only 2.2 per cent in the quarter over the same period in 1993, compared to 32.1 per cent for the collective sector and 79.1 per cent for other sectors.

It said the plight of state firms, especially in mining, coal production, machinery and metallurgy, was worsening. Many were closed or working only half-time and unable to pay wages because banks had tightened credit.

Even Beijing's capital steel works, considered a model state firm, could only pay wages in February out of bank loans.

The bureau said 49.6 per cent of state firms were in the red in the first quarter, up from

34.2 per cent a year earlier. Losses amounted to 15.7 billion yuan (\$1.8 billion), up 79.7 per cent.

The bureau reported last week that overall industrial output in the first quarter of this year grew by 18.6 per cent over the same period last year, compared to a rise of 23.6 per cent for the whole of 1993 over all 1992.

Retail prices rose more than 20 per cent nationwide in the first quarter over the same 1993 period, compared to a 13 per cent rise for the whole of 1993 over 1992.

The bureau said the immediate cause of the state firms' woes was credit shortages and a market quieter than a year ago, but poor management and long-term debts were underlying problems.

"Those that should die do not die and those that live cannot live well," it said.

Economists say the government's inability to cure the chronic sickness of state firms is a major cause of the inflation which deeply worries policymakers.

"China's central bank is issuing too much money," said visiting Japanese economist

Ryutaro Koma. "It should control money issue at a suitable level. I do not understand why China cannot control inflation. It is like boozing. If you drink too much, you not only harm yourself but cause trouble to other people."

But Lin Yifu, an economist at the State Council's Development and Research Centre, said very many state firms would not survive if the government granted credit entirely according to economic criteria.

He said it was hard to curb inflation because so many inefficient state companies could survive only on cheap credit. Beijing's Mayor Li Qiyang highlighted the serious political implications of inflation in a work report to the city's People's Congress, printed in the Beijing Daily Sunday.

"We must put all our efforts into controlling price increases and solving the living problems of people on low incomes," Mr. Li said.

IMF chief Michel Camdessus has urged China to act to cool off its overheated economy, warning that surging prices threaten to derail Beijing's plans for deep-seated economic reforms.

## Italy business welcomes change, wants more reforms

VERONA, Italy (R) — Italy's business community welcomed the prospect of a new government with a free-market attitude, but worried about losing gains made under the outgoing administration of Carlo Azeglio Ciampi.

"For the first time, after being in the minority for so many years, free enterprise has been given approval by the majority," Giovanni Agnelli, chairman of car maker Fiat SPA, told a conference attended by Italy's most powerful businessmen.

"Italians... have expressed their clear preference for a free-market system," he told more than 2,000 delegates from industry in Verona Saturday.

A right-wing Freedom Alliance led by media tycoon Silvio Berlusconi was swept to victory at a general election last month, pledging free-market reforms and an end to corruption.

"We are for a society with freedom in democracy and freedom in the economy," said Luigi Abete, head of employers' federation Confindustria.

Mr. Berlusconi is one of Italy's richest men, owning a \$7 billion a year empire that spans television, publishing and retailing and belongs to



Giovanni Agnelli  
Confindustria.

His alliance's pledges include commitment to economic reforms started by Mr. Ciampi's interim government and lower taxes, and Italy's businessmen want it to keep its promises. "The road to recovery embarked on by... Ciampi must now be followed with speed and determination," Mr. Agnelli said. "The economic situation is improving but there is still much to do."

Mr. Ciampi, a former central banker, was appointed in April last year to guide Italy towards political and economic reform.

He stepped down Saturday to make way for the new administration, leaving a legacy of

improved public spending controls, sharply lower interest rates and contained inflation.

Under Mr. Ciampi's guidance, Italy also embarked on its long-delayed privatisation programme, selling off three banks, an engineering company and foods firms.

He has also paved the way for the privatisation of other companies, including telephone, electricity and oil businesses.

"The new government has the opportunity to work well in guiding and speeding up these changes," Mr. Agnelli said.

"We have only changed parliament, now we have to proceed with changing the legislation," said Pietro Marzotto, chairman of one of Europe's biggest textile and clothing groups.

"Privatisations have passed their first test with flying colours. But... there's still much to do to cut the state's involvement in industry to the level of that in other Western countries," Mr. Agnelli added.

Mr. Ciampi told the conference Friday that it would be hard to cut taxes before rampant government spending was controlled.

Mr. Berlusconi's Forza Italia Party has pledged widespread reform and cuts in personal and company taxation.

## IEA sees Asia leading energy demand growth

TOKYO (R) — Leading industrial nations will be consuming less than half the world's primary energy by 2010, as Asia's booming economies continue their brisk growth, the International Energy Agency (IEA) has said.

In the 1994 edition of its annual World Energy Outlook, the Paris-based agency said the world would consume 11,560 million tonnes of oil equivalent (MTOE) of primary energy in 2010, up 48 per cent from 7,845 MTOE in 1991.

Of this, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) nations would consume less than 46 per cent, down from nearly 53 per cent in 1991, while energy demand from non-OECD nations would double, it said.

"By the end of the outlook period, the OECD would be consuming less than half of the world's commercial energy," IEA Executive Director Helga Steg told a news conference in Tokyo.

Continued strong economic growth in China and other Asian nations would fuel the leap in demand, she said.

China became a net importer of oil last year and was likely to remain so during the outlook period, as development of vast untapped reserves in its Tarim basin would not be able to catch up with its surging demand, the IEA report said.

A rapid improvement in living standards in other developing nations in East Asia would spur massive development of their electricity grids, it said.

Crude oil demand in non-OECD nations would rise to 38 million barrels per day (b/d) in 2010 from 20 million b/d in 1991, the IEA said.

Oil demand in OECD countries would rise to 45 million b/d from 38 million b/d, translating into a nine million b/d increase in imports from non-OECD states.

World natural gas consumption would grow by an average of 1.8 per cent a year in the 1990s and three per cent in the following decade, making gas the fastest-growing fossil fuel, the IEA said.

Coal demand would grow by an average of 2.1 per cent per year over the 20-year period, with China expected to account for over half of world coal consumption by 2010, it said.

In nuclear power, currently concentrated in the OECD, the IEA forecast a slowdown in growth due to cost, regulatory and safety concerns. Nuclear power generation would rise 1.2 per cent a year until 2000 and 0.4 per cent thereafter, it said.

Renewable energy — such as geothermal, wind, wave and solar power — accounted for less than 0.5 per cent of total energy consumption in 1991 but would grow by an average of 8.8 per cent a year, the IEA said.

The IEA said the forecasts were based on an assumption that crude oil prices would remain soft — around \$17 a barrel — for a few years and then gradually rise towards \$28, where they would top out.

## JORDAN WELFARE LOTTERY

Ordinary Issue No. 7/1994

Drawing of April 17, 1994

### Winning Tickets

Holder of ticket No. <b>67278</b> Wins JD 40,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 3,800 each wins JD 300 <b>67279 67288 67378 68278 77278</b> <b>67277 67268 67178 66278 57278</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>92845</b> Wins JD 10,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 1,000 each wins JD 100 <b>92846 92855 92945 93845 02845</b> <b>92844 92835 92745 91845 82845</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>90401</b> Wins JD 5,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 700 each wins JD 70 <b>90402 90411 90501 91401 00401</b> <b>90400 90491 90501 99401 80401</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>70886</b> Wins JD 3,500	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 400 each wins JD 40 <b>70887 70896 70986 71886 80886</b> <b>70885 70876 70786 79886 60886</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>71908</b> Wins JD 2,500	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 250 each wins JD 25 <b>71909 71918 71008 72908 81908</b> <b>71907 71998 71808 70908 61908</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>61294</b> Wins JD 2,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 200 each wins JD 20 <b>61295 61204 61394 62294 71294</b> <b>61293 61284 61194 60294 51294</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>65304</b> Wins JD 1,500	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 100 each wins JD 10 <b>65305 65314 65404 66304 75304</b> <b>65303 65394 65204 64304 55304</b>
Holder of ticket No. <b>11331</b> Wins JD 1,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 50 each wins JD 5 <b>11332 11341 11431 12331 21331</b> <b>11330 11321 11231 10331 01331</b>

Ticket numbers <b>69984 26146 53286 11025 46290</b>	Win JD 200 each
Ticket numbers <b>13452 97779 09107 08206 90522</b>	Win JD 100 each

### TICKETS ENDING WITH

<b>8747 3110 7767 2143</b> Win JD 60 each	<b>6055 5805 6103</b> Win JD 30 each
<b>642 345</b> Win JD 15 each	<b>9263 4535</b> Win JD 10 each
<b>53</b> Win JD 6 each	<b>5</b> Win JD 3 each

### COVER PRIZES FOR THE LOTTERY SELLERS

40 covers, attached to the stub of 10 ending in <b>937 120 367 877</b>	Win JD 10
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Winners of the grand prizes in the special issue number 6/1994 of April 2, 1994

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Next Draw takes place on May 2, 1994

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## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY APRIL 18, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** By persevering with the work at hand you can accomplish much of what you want to achieve this week as you strive to be more successful. Associates will be looking to you for more understanding and leadership in the days ahead.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Find out what associates are thinking and try to cooperate more than them. Handle a business matter wisely and you will have no problems.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Don't delay investigating an outlet that could give you added income in the days ahead. Don't lose your temper with anyone or there could be adverse consequences.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) A difficult project needs more study before putting it in operation. Go to the right sources for the information you need to get a project completed.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Be certain to handle a new situation from a modern viewpoint for best results. Use tact when dealing with others on any endeavor.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Study your financial position and take steps to improve it. You are able to make an alliance with an influential person who can help you.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to Septem-

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Carry through with ideas that will make your business operations more lucrative. Making adjustments where needed is wise.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Be more cooperative with fellow associates and gain their friendship. Think and act more constructively and you will be very successful.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Don't permit some pressure you are under to keep you from making this a worthwhile day. Be happy with congenial friends and loved ones.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Be alter for an opportunity to advance in your line of endeavor. You can make a fine impression on others at this time.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Associates could have fixed points of view, so don't argue with them today. Strive for harmony at home with your mate and loved ones.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) You may have had money losses in the past, but forget them and concentrate on the positive now. Improve your surroundings for more enjoyment.

## THE Daily Crossword by James Barrick

ACROSS

1 Criticize	10 Point of land
2 Got along	11 Sand forth
3 Cuckoo	12 copiously
4 "I am a parade..."	13 Youthful suffix
5 Bull issue	14 Compress point
6 Astronaut	15 Find
7 Attitude	16 Irregularly
8 Strategem	17 Gross error
9 Golf club	18 Ms. Maples
10 Go fast	19 Be inquiscent
11 Thrust	20 Holy images
12 Lower in quality	21 First-rate
13 Scavenger	22 Low fellows
14 Camp	23 Ancient
15 Certain literary style	24 Egyptian
16 Explorer	25 Served from a bottle
17 Saboteur	26 Window type
18 Stage signal	27 Painter's guide
19 Departed	28 Where Thujillo is
20 Author Mark	29 Shape
21 Manage	30 Hashanah
22 Application	31 At all
23 Give an answer	
24 Discussion group	
25 Method of betting	
26 Title for paves	
27 Buy a pig — poke	
28 Charter	
29 Higher-math concept	
30 Forbidden	
31 Literary device	
32 Salton's saint	
33 Litter	
34 Senior	
35 Unfeeling	
36 Away from the wind	
37 Busy ones	
38 Receptions	

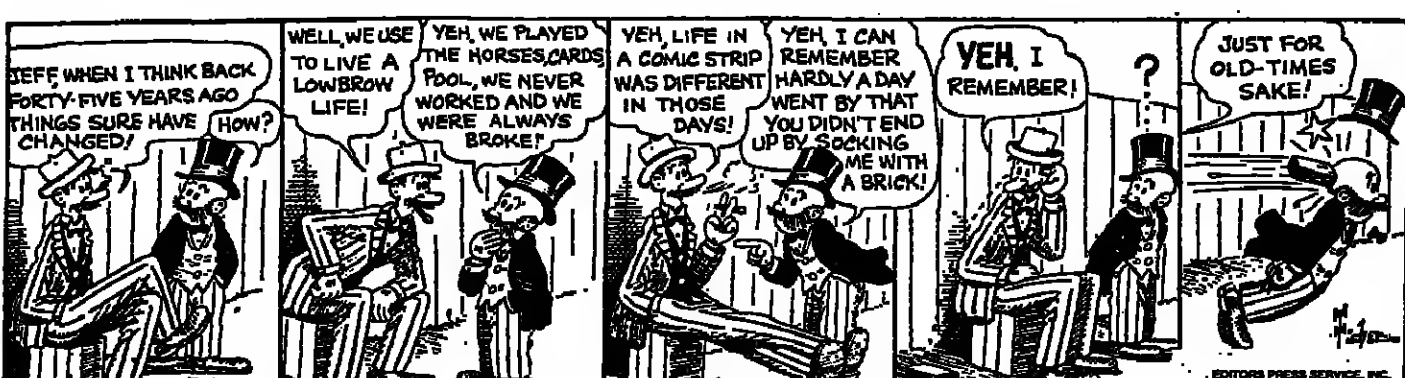
DOWN

1 Bridge	11 High-strung	21 Jockeyed
2 Sockdolager	12 "boy!"	22 Azure
3 Cuckoo	13 Handle brutally	23 Lazarus or Samaras
4 Layer of tissue	14 Bury	24 Spills from
5 Savage	15 Collide	
6 Having wings	16 49	
7 Hashanah	17 50	
8 At all	18 49	
9 Something removed	19 50	
10 Sand forth	20 49	
11 copiously	21 49	
12 — facto	22 49	
13 Youthful suffix	23 49	
14 Compress point	24 49	
15 Find	25 49	
16 Irregularly	26 49	
17 Gross error	27 49	
18 Ms. Maples	28 49	
19 Be inquiscent	29 49	
20 Holy images	30 49	
21 First-rate	31 49	
22 Low fellows	32 49	
23 Ancient	33 49	
24 Egyptian	34 49	
25 Served from a bottle	35 49	
26 Window type	36 49	
27 Painter's guide	37 49	
28 Where Thujillo is	38 49	
29 Shape	39 49	
30 Hashanah	40 49	
31 At all	41 49	

## Peanuts



## Mutt'n'Jeff









## IFP postpones election protest march; 4 killed in Natal violence

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), which is boycotting South Africa's April 26-28 all-race elections, Sunday postponed a Johannesburg protest march banned by the authorities amid fears of bloodshed.

But Inkatha Youth Brigade Chairman Charles Loliwe said the party would announce a new date for Monday's protest following a meeting of its leadership.

The IFP Executive Committee is meeting at the moment to discuss a date for the march but we can say that tomorrow's march has been postponed until an outcome of the committee meeting," Mr. Loliwe told a news conference.

An Inkatha march in South Africa's commercial capital of Johannesburg on March 28 sparked clashes which killed at least 53 people.

President F.W. de Klerk said Saturday that security forces would crack down on any attempt to hold another march Sunday.

At least four people were killed in fresh political violence in the Zulu heartland of Natal overnight, the South African Defence Force and police said Sunday.

Two people were killed in the black township of Kwa-Mashu outside Durban, one man died in Umlazi township and another man in nearby Malagazi, they said in a joint statement.

The latest killings took the death toll in Natal and the

adjoining KwaZulu black homeland since the March 31 declaration of a state of emergency there to at least 222.

Meanwhile, British mediator Lord Carrington Sunday warned that African National Congress (ANC) moderates could have trouble controlling militants after this month's South African elections.

Lord Carrington, a former British foreign secretary who returned this weekend from an abortive mediation mission to South Africa, told interviewer Sir David Frost British Broadcasting Corporation Television that ANC leader Nelson Mandela and President F.W. de Klerk needed each other.

"Mandela needs the whites and the whites need Mandela. So there will be a coalition government that will work for a time. What happens later on will be another matter," he said.

"I would expect the expectations of the blacks are impossible to satisfy and perhaps later on the moderates in the ANC will find it difficult to get on top of those who are more militant," he added.

Lord Carrington and former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger had tried in vain to narrow differences between Mr. Mandela and the Inkatha Freedom Party in the lead-up to the country's first all-race elections from April 26 to 28.

Rival South African political leaders have appealed for calm before what they fear may be a

bloody week of election campaigning.

International monitors urged that violence and intimidation, particularly in the Zulu heartland in Natal, should not be allowed to deny South Africans their right to join the community of democratic states during the April 26-28 elections.

Zulu activists backing Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelez's election boycott threatened a week of mass disruption.

In KwaZulu-Natal, various political parties complain of harassment by the Inkatha Freedom Party.

"Let us avoid conflict," South African State President F.W. de Klerk told cheering supporters of all races at a rally on the outskirts of Johannesburg Saturday.

In Natal, Mr. Mandela — all but assured of the presidency and power — expressed a national sense of exhaustion with the killings and mayhem in the self-governing Zulu homeland.

"The people must live in peace... the majority of the people do not want the killings," he told a rally in Umlazi.

Mr. Buthelez, blamed by the ANC and increasingly by his old allies in the white government for the violence in pursuit of virtual autonomy in KwaZulu-Natal, also called for peace.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the one single thing all South Africans hope and

pray for is that peace will come to our land," he told university students in Empangeni.

But, he added: "As we are all aware, South Africa stands on the brink of possible peace or terrible turmoil as we face a new future."

The horror of the violence was brought home at a funeral in Gamalakhe in Natal where 11-year-old Happiness Mzelembu buried nine of her relatives — mother, grandmother and seven brothers and sisters — hacked and shot to death on April 2.

"I hope God will be with us..." said her father William. "One of those killers is from Inkatha and he said if he sees me, he'll kill me too."

While talking tough, Mr. de Klerk also held open a prospect of negotiations with Zulu leaders on the status of the Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini, who is seen as crucial to moderating sentiment among South Africa's eight million Zulus.

Mr. Mandela too tried to appeal to Zulus with a speech in praise of the king.

"I was his father's lawyer, the king is like a child of mine. He is the child of mine I love the most. If he talks about peace in KwaZulu-Natal he is going to get respect throughout the world," Mr. Mandela said in Ladysmith in Natal.

Mr. Mandela earlier showed his solidarity with voters facing intimidation in the region, saying: "I would like to come and vote in Natal."



As United Nations commander for ex-Yugoslavia General Andre Lapresle look on, hand in his pocket, Bosnian UNPROFOR commander Lt. General Sir Michael Rose (centre) speaks by satellite telephone with commanders of the Serb and Bosnian forces from his central Sarajevo residence (AFP photo)

## Serbs resume shelling of Gorazde

SARAJEVO (R) — Bosnian Serb forces resumed shelling the besieged Muslim town of Gorazde Sunday, causing civilian casualties, a U.N. peacekeeping force spokesman said.

At least three artillery rounds hit close to the main hospital of the town, a U.N.-designated safe area, just after noon (1000 GMT) and intense shelling was reported on a hill two kilometres to the south-east, Major Dacre Holloway said.

Maj. Holloway said a village in contested highlands three kilometres north of Gorazde was ablaze. Another U.N. source said the town's hospital had been hit by sniper fire as well.

"However, the BSA (Bosnian Serb Army) is not advancing on Gorazde at this time," he told Reuters.

U.N. spokesmen said the air attacks were called off when tanks and infantry stopped advancing and firing into the town. But the United Nations would not hesitate to summon NATO jets again if the Serb assault resumed, they said.

Meanwhile, Serb forces attacked British U.N. soldiers early Sunday with machinegun fire and grenades in Sarajevo and the peacekeepers returned the fire, destroying several Serb bunkers, the United Nations said.

Bosnian Serb Army (BSA) troops attacked the British unit following a ceasefire line in Kobiljica Glava in Sarajevo and the British forces responded in a heavy firefight, Rob Annink, U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokesman, told reporters.

"The British were engaged by direct small arms and machinegun fire and four hand grenades by the BSA," Annink said in Sarajevo.

"The British battalion position returned fire with more than 500 rounds of small arms, 30mm cannon from their War-

rior (armoured) vehicles, four hand-held mortars and three illumination flares."

U.N. military sources said the British soldiers' fierce return fire destroyed seven Serb bunkers.

Annink said there were no casualties on the UNPROFOR side.

An off-duty British U.N. soldier was shot dead at a checkpoint of the Muslim-led Bosnian army in Sarajevo early Sunday, a United Nations peacekeeping force spokesman said.

He said the circumstances of the incident at 1:30 a.m. (2300 GMT Saturday) were being investigated by the U.N. Protection Force and Bosnian military police in the capital.

U.N. envoy Yasushi Akashi met Bosnian Serb leaders for talks Sunday after backing down on a demand for the prior release of 200 U.N. military observers held by the Bosnian Serb Army.

Mr. Akashi appeared in the Bosnian Serb capital, Pale for Russian-mediated negotiations to end Serb attacks on the Muslim enclave of Gorazde although the United Nations confirmed the men were still being detained.

The Japanese diplomat, struggling to restore the U.N.'s tattered credibility in Bosnia after a week of humiliation by the Serbs, insisted Saturday that the release of the observers was a precondition for talks.

The U.N. and Russian envoy Vitaly Churkin are trying to halt a Serb offensive on Gorazde's 60,000 Muslims amid threats by BSA Commander General Ratko Mladic to capture the U.N.-designated safe area, which lies across communication routes between Serbia and Serb-held areas of Bosnia.

Relations between the United Nations and the Bosnian Serbs have been plunged into crisis by NATO air strikes

against BSA attackers around Gorazde.

The latest talks marked an attempt to roll back the BSA and establish a weapons exclusion zone around the town in return for an overall ceasefire in Bosnia. The West is counting on the Russians to deliver.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev said after talks with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic in Belgrade Saturday: "It is necessary to ensure the withdrawal of Serb troops from the town and an end to shelling — an excessive response to Muslim provocations."

Mr. Kozyrev, who returned to Moscow Sunday morning, said the use of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) air power twice last week was also excessive.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic further criticised Lientenant-General Sir Michael Rose, commander of U.N. forces in Bosnia, who requested the air strikes and has refused to be intimidated by Serb bullying.

He accused the British general in a Belgrade newspaper of acting on false reports about the military situation in Gorazde, adding: "Michael Rose could spark off World War III by actions such as these."

Bosnian Serb forces Friday and Saturday launched a ferocious onslaught on Gorazde, one of six U.N.-designated safe areas for Muslims in Bosnia.

Serb tanks bombarded the town, forcing Bosnian government soldiers to retreat and sending terrified refugees into the town's centre to seek shelter.

A NATO British Harrier jet was shot down by a surface-to-air missile over the besieged enclave but the pilot ejected over Muslim-held territory and was later rescued and taken to Gorazde, U.N. and NATO officials said.

## Dudley Moore marries girlfriend in short ceremony

LOS ANGELES (R) — British actor and comedian Dudley Moore married his longtime girlfriend Nicole Rothschild Saturday, less than a month after he was arrested for allegedly beating her. Moore appeared with his new bride on the balcony of his two-story ocean-side home and announced to a throng of reporters, cameramen, television crew and well-wishers: "We did it." The diminutive actor, who stands just five feet two inches tall, proposed to Ms. Rothschild, who is eight inches taller than he is, two weeks ago — about a week after a quarrel which put the entertainer briefly in jail. But all was forgotten Saturday as the two, who have known each other for more than 10 years, appeared on the balcony of their Marina Del Rey home. Moore dressed in a charcoal-gray suit and Ms. Rothschild in a long, white wedding dress, and joked with reporters. "The ceremony was short and funny," said Ms. Rothschild. "Yes, short and funny like me," quipped Moore. The 58-year-old actor, who is also an accomplished jazz pianist, said he and his 30-year-old wife, who is from Corona Del Mar in southern California, had not decided whether to have children. He has one son, Patrick, from a previous marriage to actress Tuesday Weld. Asked by reporters if he and Ms. Rothschild had signed a pre-nuptial financial agreement, he replied firmly: "No comment." The two then waved to the crowd and "disappeared" into the house.

## China's first hard rock cafe opens in Beijing

BEIJING (AP) — First the beer ran out. Then the crowd packing China's first hard rock cafe cleaned out the kitchen as the club celebrated its opening Saturday night. "It was a huge success," manager Nicholas Cig said at 1 a.m. as the party continued. The two-story, 400-seat restaurant with a red 1990 Cadillac suspended over the door is being promoted as a slice of American culture. "You walk through the doors and it's as if you've left China," said Sallie Beaumont, 32, a British translator working for an engineering firm in Beijing. The menu lists burgers and milkshakes; Western music blares from speakers, and rock-and-roll memorabilia line the walls. One of Michael Jackson's sequined gloves, the jacket Prince wore filming his Purple Rain video, and Madonna's bracelet from the cover of her Like a Virgin are framed and hung on the walls. "It's amazing. There's tonnes of things to take in," said Li Xing Hui, 23, a Chinese painter, gazing from the mezzanine at the spawling guitar-shaped bar below. Behind the stage, where blues singer B.B. King is scheduled to perform next month, is a 20-foot (6-metre) stained-glass triptych depicting Elvis Presley flanked by Chuck Berry and Jerry Lee Lewis. The crowning touch is a dome with hand-painted portraits of the Beatles, Little Richard, Jimi Hendrix and others standing next to the Great Wall and Tiananmen Gate. Three more hard rock cafes are planned for China in Shanghai, Shenzhen and Canton.

## Rats on increase in U.K. homes

LONDON (R) — Mild winters, fast-food litter and local authority spending cuts have increased the number of rat-infested homes in England and Wales, and some rats are becoming immune to poison, health experts say. A survey of 10,000 properties released Friday by the Institution of Environmental Health Officers (IEHO) showed that there were now 4.6 per cent of homes in England and Wales infested with rats compared to 3.3 per cent in 1979. "This increase could represent a worrying trend," said Graham Jukes, of the IEHO, which represents the mainly local council-employed health officers. "Rats in some areas have been found to show resistance to traditional baits," he added. Officials at the IEHO said rats had benefited from an increase in the number of fast-food restaurants in Britain, which led to more litter in the streets. At the same time, local authority pest control units had suffered from funding cuts. Rats can spread diseases harmful to humans. The Bubonic plague that killed up to half the population of 14th century Europe was caused by fleas from Asian black rats.

## Watanabe says he is quitting Japan's LDP

TOKYO (R) — Former Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said Sunday he will leave the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in his bid to succeed Morihiro Hosokawa as prime minister.

"I cannot become prime minister with only the support of the LDP. I will be asking other people for support. So, as a matter of course, I will quit my party membership," Mr. Watanabe told reporters.

Mr. Watanabe's remarks came as the ruling coalition was nearing a final agreement to name Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata as Hosokawa's successor.

Mr. Hosokawa announced on April 8 he was stepping down amid a loans scandal which triggered a month-long opposition boycott of budget debates in parliament.

Key coalition leaders, such as Yuichi Ichikawa of the Buddhist-backed Komeito and

the Socialist's deputy head, Wataru Kubo, said earlier Sunday it was impossible to name Mr. Watanabe head of the coalition.

"It is 100 per cent impossible to pick a person from an opposition party," Mr. Kubo said of Mr. Watanabe's bid.

"We have no intention of altering our coalition framework," Mr. Ichikawa said in a live television debate.

"But in principle, we welcome any move to break away from

the LDP."

Mr. Watanabe did not say when he would formally make the move. He was scheduled to meet LDP President Yohei Kono, who is trying to persuade him to stay put, Monday.

The scandal-ridden LDP has been in tatters since last July when massive defections and a general election defeat toppled it from its 38-year hold on power.

## Taiwan separatist sentiment surges

TAIPEI (R) — Pro-independence sentiment in Taiwan has hit an all-time high following the mysterious deaths of 24 Taiwanese tourists in a boat fire in China last month, according to a survey published Sunday.

A record 27 per cent of 1,011 people interviewed supported calls for the government to abandon its goal of eventual reunification with China and declare independence, the Gallup survey showed.

About 46 per cent of respondents, an all-time low, were opposed to separatism.

In southern Taiwan, the number of respondents favouring independence for the first time inched

above those opposed, by 36.7 to 36.4 per cent.

The tragedy at Qindao Lake in Zhejiang province on March 31 has strained uneasy relations between Taiwan and China, bitter rivals since the 1949 Chinese civil war ended in 1949.

A Taiwanese government source quoted intelligence reports told Reuters Saturday that a group of renegade People's Liberation Army soldiers armed with flamethrowers robbed and burned to death the tourists.

Chinese authorities found out about the murder the next day but decided to cover it up

and ordered the loot to be returned because "the impact of the incident could be far-reaching," the source quoted intelligence reports as saying.

Taiwan has decided to suspend all group tours to China from May 1.

China, which views Taiwan as a renegade province, has threatened to invade if the island declares independence.

Hsieh Fo-Sheng, political science professor at National Chengchi University, said the incident had made many people more fearful of Communist China.

"Some who were previously pro-reunification are now neutral while some who were previously neutral are now pro-independence."

## Reynolds offers Northerners 30% of power if Ireland unites

LONDON (AP) — The leader of the Irish Republic has offered Northern Ireland's pro-British Protestants a guaranteed share of power if they agree to reunite Ireland.

Albert Reynolds, in a speech to his ruling Fianna Fail party in a Dublin suburb Saturday, offered politicians from both sides of Northern Ireland's political-religious divide "a guaranteed 30 per cent of places in an enlarged government and throughout the public sector."

It was the first time that Mr. Reynolds, prime minister of southern Ireland since 1991, spelled out his hopes for an end to 73 years of Irish partition in such detail.

In his speech he also pledged: — to allow citizens of a united Ireland to retain dual

British-Irish citizenship; — to consider a devolved parliament in Belfast that would maintain many powers within Northern Ireland, where pro-British Protestants hold a majority;

— that his party, and the Irish people in general, didn't want to force Northern Unionists to give up or agree to anything.

"As things stand, no one from Northern Ireland standing as a (pro-British) Unionist or a (pro-Irish) Nationalist has any real prospect of participating in a British government," he said. "Yet both could play an important part in governing the whole of Ireland."

Northern Ireland's largest pro-British party, the Ulster Unionists, dismissed Mr.

Reynolds' remarks as fantasy and emphasised that the people they represent won't look to Dublin for leadership.

"This is absolute nonsense. How would he get 30 per cent in the government for a start? What he says would be unworkable in any democratic society," said William Ross, an Ulster Unionist member of British parliament. "There is not going to be an all-Ireland republic, so he is whistling in the wind."

Martin Smyth, the party's member of parliament for South Belfast, said Mr. Reynolds sounded surprisingly generous but his ambitions were about "denying unionism."

Mr. Reynolds was careful in his remarks not to insult Sinn Fein, the IRA's legal political

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## Haiti soccer team wants to go home

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad (AP) — After failing to obtain asylum in the United States, 16 members of Haiti's national soccer team now want to return home.

"We wanted to get to Miami to play a football match for the Haitian community there, but we couldn't get a visa. We want to go back to Haiti," one of the players told the Associated Press Saturday on condition of anonymity.

After three players submitted asylum applications Thursday, the U.S. embassy told the group their requests could not be granted.

The embassy recommended the players seek asylum in Trinidad and Tobago, a two-island country of 1.2 million located just north of Venezuela.

But they have not done it yet, and foreign affairs minister, Augustus Ramkrishna, said his government cannot intervene in the matter unless it receives a request for asylum.

The players, who arrived in Trinidad April 7 for the Caribbean Cup — a Concacaf-sanctioned tournament, came with one-month visas and did not seek asylum from the United States immediately.

The U.S. embassy refused to grant their requests because

the U.S. immigration and naturalization act allows only Trinidad residents to apply for political asylum here.

Once the players expressed interest in staying in the United States permanently, they were no longer eligible for visitors' visas, the embassy said in a statement. It also distributed a statement from the U.S. state department.

"The U.S. embassy in Trinidad does not process applications for refugee status," the state department statement said. "The U.S. has an established procedure for processing Haitian refugee cases in Haiti. Should these individuals believe they have a claim to refugee status, they can apply with one of our in-country refugee processing centres in Haiti."

Scores of Haitians have tried to flee their homeland by boat since president Jean-Bertrand Aristide was ousted in an army coup in September 1991. Conditions have greatly deteriorated in the country due to international economic sanctions placed on the country intended to force the military dictatorship out of power.

Fearing a flood of economic refugees, the United States policy has been to immediately return all refugees.

## Suns edge San Antonio 96-94

*The Associated Press*  
AT SAN ANTONIO, Kevin Johnson and A.C. Green combined for Phoenix's last 13 points, leading the Suns to a 96-94 victory over San Antonio Saturday.

Green, who scored 19 of his 23 points in the second half, gave the Suns the lead for good with a three-point play with 1:38 left. Johnson assisted on Green's last three baskets.

David Robinson, who had 39 points, 15 rebounds and seven assists, made one of two foul shots with 38.5 seconds left to pull the Spurs within 96-94.

San Antonio had two chances to tie the game in the final seven seconds. But Negele Knight missed a 3-pointer with 4.1 seconds left and Willie Anderson's reverse layup rimmed out at the buzzer.

Charles Barkley led Phoenix with 26 points and Johnson added 16 points and 16 assists.

At Seattle, Shawn Kemp had 22 points and 17 rebounds and Gary Payton added 21 points as Seattle won its 60th game, tops in the NBA. The SuperSonics became the 36th team to league history to win as many as 60 games in a season. They won their fifth in a row and 14th out of 15.

Hakeem Olajuwon scored

31 points and Vernon Maxwell 30 for the Rockets, who have 56 wins and the league's second-best record.

Vincent Askew clinched the Sonics' second victory in four games against the Rockets this season with two free throws with 10.6 seconds left. That gave Seattle a 100-97 lead. Otis Thorpe had popped in a 5-footer on an offensive rebound for Houston with 16.9 seconds to go.

In Atlanta, Andrew Lang tied this season-high with 20 points, including eight during a decisive 26-8 first-half run, and Atlanta took over first place in the Eastern Conference with a rout of Philadelphia.

The Hawks' 12th victory in 15 games and fourth straight moved them to a half-game ahead of New York and one game ahead of Chicago in the race for the best record in the conference.

Orlando Woolridge came off the bench to lead the 76ers with 21 points, and Clarence Weatherspoon scored 14.

Kevin Willis had 19 points and Mookie Blaylock 16 for the Hawks. At Dallas, Spud Webb scored 26 points, including a 3-pointer that ignited a key third-quarter run that lifted Sacramento over Dallas.

Wayman Tisdale scored a

season-high 32 points and Mitch Richmond had 23 for the Kings, who are trying to win 30 games in a season for the first time in eight seasons. Sacramento is 27-51 with four games left.

Webb's 3-pointer started a 13-2 run, expanding a two-point lead to 73-60 with 4:38 left in the third quarter.

Jim Jackson scored 20 points for Dallas, which was thwarted in its attempt to win three consecutive games for the first time since the 1990-91 season. In Milwaukee, Chris Mills' rebound basket at the buzzer capped a fourth-quarter rally, lifting Cleveland past Milwaukee.

Mark Price led the Cavaliers with 21 points, and John Williams had 19. Mills finished with 13 points and 14 rebounds.

Milwaukee led 84-75 with 3:38 remaining, but the Cavs, playing their fourth game in five nights, bounced back, using an 11-2 run to tie the game 86-86.

At Oakland, Calif., Latrell Sprewell scored 18 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter, rallying Golden State past Utah, which lost its eighth straight road game while Warriors coach Don Nelson won his 800th career game.

## Schumacher wins Pacific Grand Prix

AIDA, Japan (AP) — Taking the lead as pole sitter Ayrton Senna spun out just seconds after the start, Germany's Michael Schumacher held on to the end to win a retirement-ridden Pacific Grand Prix Formula One for race Sunday.

The victory was the second in as many races this season for Benetton-Ford driver Schumacher, who completed the 83-laps around the 3.703-kilometre T-1 circuit in 1 hour, 46 minutes and 1.693 seconds. His average speed was 173.9 kilometres per hour.

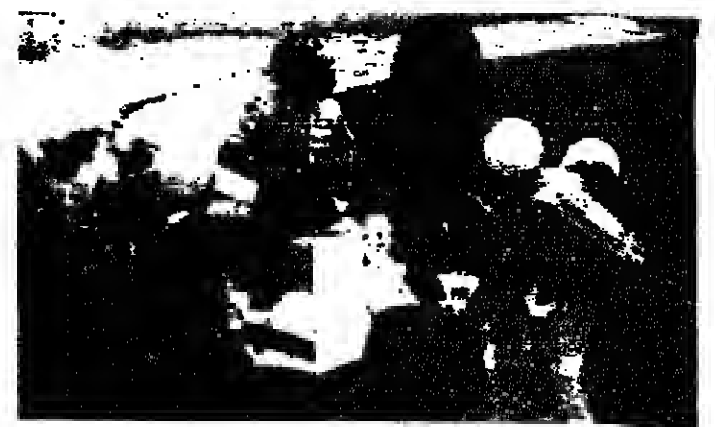
"It was a fantastic feeling," Schumacher said. "I knew Ayrton was the only competitor I had to fight against. And when Ayrton went off, I knew that I could take it easy."

Floishing second was Ferrari's Gerhard Berger of Austria, 1 minute, 15.300 seconds behind. In third was Brazilian Rubens Barrichello, driving for Jordan-Hart, who was one lap back.

Only 11 of the 26 starters were able to hold on to finish the race, the first F-1 Grand Prix held in this small farming town in the mountains of western Japan.

Senna spun out just seconds after the start as the racers approached the initial curve, and was sideswiped by Ferrari driver Nicola Larini.

It was the second spin in as many Grands Prix this season



Brazilian Formula One driver Ayrton Senna (centre) stands beside his Williams-Renault after a spinout at the first turn right after start of the Pacific Grand Prix in Aida Sunday (AP photo)

for Senna, who was uninjured in Sunday's spin. Larini was also unable to continue.

Schumacher, who debuted in 1991, moved into the lead with Senna out and was virtually unchallenged as drivers grew increasingly cautious on the twisty course.

"I didn't have to push so hard," Schumacher said. "The last two-thirds of the race I was very relaxed."

Conditions Sunday were made worse after the 57th lap, as oil sprayed the engine of Gianni Morbidelli of Arrows-Ford.

Sunday's no-finish was a particularly hard blow for Senna. Racing with a new team —

Williams-Renault — after two disappointing seasons, Senna was looking for a win at Aida to help get him back on track toward regaining some of the glory of years past.

He won the Drivers' Championship in 1988, 1990 and 1991, but finished second overall in a 1993 season marred by dispute and controversy. He was only fourth in 1992.

With the Aida start, Senna extended his record for most career pole positions to 68, almost double the second-most (33), won by racing greats Jim Clark and Alan Prost. He had also won the post at the British season opener, but was unable to finish the race after a spin.

## Chang beats Rafter, wins Hong Kong title

HONG KONG (AP) — Top seed Michael Chang cruised to a 6-1, 6-3 victory Sunday over an ailing Patrick Rafter and won the \$320,000 Hong Kong Tennis Open.

The final at the Victoria Park court was delayed for an hour to help fourth seed Rafter recover from a bout of food poisoning.

But it was clear that the Australian was too listless to provide any resistance to Chang's quest for his first Hong Kong title.

Rafter later dropped out of the doubles final, in which he was teamed with Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden, giving victory to Jim Grabb of the United States and New Zealand's Brett Steven.

Rafter, who upset second seed Ivan Lendl 6-3, 6-4 in the semifinals, managed to hold his serve only once in the first set.

The Australian, ranked 26th in the world, battled bravely in the second set, but was broken twice as his American opponent wrapped up the match in one hour.

Chang, ranked seventh, said he felt great after his first Hong Kong title in four attempts, and complimented Rafter for playing despite his stomach problems.

Chang, who received \$42,600 for his victory, defeated compatriot Brad Gilbert, the third seed, 6-2, 7-5 in the semifinals.

## Courier, Berasategui win semis at Nice

NICE, France (AP) — Jim Courier breezed while Alberto Berasategui struggled to reach the finals of the \$300,000 Nice Open tennis tournament with Sunday morning victories.

The semifinals were washed out on Saturday and tournament officials wanted to get everything in before the Monte Carlo Open starts Monday.

Courier, second seeded, needed a little more than an hour to beat Marc Rosset of Switzerland, 6-0, 6-3. Spain's unseeded Berasategui went more than two hours to defeat Czech Slava Dosedel, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

## Ceron, Dorre brave cold to win London Marathon

LONDON (R) — Race favourite Dionicio Ceron of Mexico braved cold, windy weather to win the London Marathon in 2 hours 08 minutes 15 seconds Sunday and confirm his reputation as the best marathon runner in the world.

He finished well clear of Ethiopia's Abebe Mekonnen (2:09:17) and third-placed Mexican compatriot German Silva (2:09:18). In the second fastest winning time in the event's 14-year history.

Only Briton Steve Jones, who ran 2:08:16 to win in 1985, has won the race in a faster time.

Ceron's victory was his fourth out of the four

marathons he has run, and guaranteed him the winner's cheque of £37,500 (\$55,000).

Britain's Eamonn Martin, who won the race last year and was bidding to become the first man to win it twice, was dropped by the leading pack with about seven miles to run and finished eighth.

Karin Dorre of Germany made history by becoming the first runner to win the women's race for three successive years.

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♥ A K 10 6  
♦ A K 6 3  
♣ 7

**EAST**  
♠ K 10 9 7  
♥ 8 7  
♦ Q J 10 5  
♣ 4

**WEST**  
♠ 3 5 6 5  
♥ 4  
♦ 4  
♣ A K J 10 9 4 2 8 5 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ 4 3  
♥ Q J 9 5 3 2  
♦ 9 8 7 2  
♣ 6

The bidding:  
South West North East  
Pass 3 ♠ Dbl Pass  
3 ♥ Pass 4 ♥ Pass  
Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

When mapping your plan of campaign, consider both the bidding and the play to the early tricks. You would be surprised what a lot of information lies there, waiting to be mined.

We are appalled by West's choice of three clubs for the opening salvo. While we don't go as far as some pundits who ban preemptive with a three-card major on the side, it is definitely taboo when you have a four-card major—there is too great a chance of missing game, even slam, in the second suit.

West led the king of clubs and when dummy came down it seemed the contract would hinge on the spade finesse or a normal 3-2 split in diamonds. However, West could not possibly hold the king of spades. The opening lead marked that defender with the ace-king of clubs and with the king of spades as well a preempt would have been out of the question.

As the cards lie, a spade shift at trick two would have ruined declarer's chances—there would have been no way to avoid losing a trick in each black suit and two diamonds. But West woefully continued with a club and declarer was quick to take advantage.

The club continuation was ruffed and trumps were drawn in two rounds, ending in the closed hand. Now declarer took the safety play of leading the nine of diamonds and running it when West followed low. East won and the only safe return was a diamond. Had West followed to this trick it would have meant that diamonds were 3-2 and declarer's only other loser would be a spade. But when West showed out, declarer won, cashed dummy's remaining high diamond and exited with a diamond. East now was forced to concede the contract either by leading into the table's spade tenace or by giving declarer a shift-and-ruff. The spade loser had vanished.

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Marlon Brando in <b>The Freshman</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30		Robby Benson & Jennifer O'Neil in <b>INVASION OF PRIVACY</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30		<b>CONCORD '1'</b> <b>MR. JONES</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 <b>CONCORD '2'</b> <b>The Assassin</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30		The grand opening of Amoun Theatre April 20 1994 Political comedy <b>Forbidden X Forbidden</b>	Coming soon Abu Awad in: The new comedy <b>"A PUNCTURED BAG"</b> Directed by Ghassan Al Mashini	Two more weeks before the performances of the political comedy <b>"Ahlam Arab Summit Conference"</b> Come to an end



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Nuclear arms treaty 'needs overhaul'

LONDON (AP) — The international treaty meant to stop the spread of nuclear weapons needs an overhaul, the chairman of the committee negotiating a nuclear test ban said. The five nuclear powers — the United States, Russia, Britain, France and China — are trying to use next year's review of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty to perpetuate their right to keep nuclear weapons, said Mexican Ambassador Miguel Marin-Bosch. Mr. Marin-Bosch, chairman of the Nuclear Test Ban Committee of the 38-nation Conference on Disarmament, gave the keynote address at a conference on proliferation sponsored by Medical Action For Global Security, a new organisation of doctors and health professionals. "The fact is that the nuclear non-proliferation treaty is already unraveling and that it has indeed been held hostage for years by the nuclear weapons states' own determination to continue to build and improve their nuclear arsenals and thus try to maintain their nuclear monopoly," he said. Under the treaty, non-nuclear states forewent the acquisition of nuclear weapons in exchange for assistance from the nuclear powers to develop peaceful nuclear energy. More than 140 countries have signed the treaty since it came into force in 1970.

## Cambodian leader cancels Bangkok visit

PHNOM PENH (AP) — First Premier Norodom Ranariddh announced the last-minute cancellation Saturday of a trip his co-premier, Hun Sen, had been planning to make to Thailand to discuss border security problems. Cambodian leaders have been complaining that Thailand continues to assist Khmer Rouge guerrillas operating along the frontier with supplies and safe haven. The guerrilla group refuses to abide by the terms of a 1991 peace agreement meant to put an end to over a decade of civil war, and refuses to recognise the authority of the central government. Thai leaders say they ceased aiding the Khmer Rouge after the signing of the accord and Friday accused Phnom Penh of making "groundless accusations." Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Soonsit said Thailand would make an official protest over the charges. Prince Ranariddh also announced that the supreme commander of the Thai Armed Forces would come to Cambodia "within a few days" on an official visit. Thai military officials in Bangkok could not be contacted to confirm the announcement. Prince Ranariddh did not explain why Second Premier Hun Sen, who had announced earlier this week his plans to make an "urgent visit for work" to Bangkok Saturday, had cancelled his trip.

## U.S. diplomat criticises Germans

BERLIN (AP) — A retiring U.S. diplomat criticised Germany for its attitude on foreigners, saying outsiders are too often made to feel unwelcome and pointing out that the country's nationality law is still based on race. "If Germany is not a racist society, why is its nationality law, which was written in 1913, predicated upon race?" asked Douglas H. Jones, principal officer in the U.S. embassy's office in Berlin. Mr. Jones gave the remarks in a speech Thursday night at the former Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp Memorial in Oranienburg north of Berlin. The diplomat questioned the consistency of remarks by German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who said foreigners were welcome but that Germany is not a nation of immigrants. Mr. Jones noted that Mr. Kohl had not attended the funerals of any foreigners killed in attacks by extremists in the wave of racist violence that has followed the country's 1990 unification. "If I were a skinhead, I would take a certain amount of comfort in hearing that Germany is not a country of immigration," Mr. Jones said. "That would signal to me that the nearly 7 million foreigners who live here legally do not belong here and that I am justified in wanting them out. And to be honest with you, this sentiment is by no means limited to skinheads."

## U.S. jet almost bombs Australians

CANBERRA (R) — A U.S. fighter plane on a night training run in North Australia accidentally dropped a dummy bomb near a bus containing 30 Australians, Defence Minister Robert Ray said Sunday. Mr. Ray said officials were investigating the incident two weeks ago near the Delamere Bombing Range 30 kilometres south of Darwin. The plane, reported to be an FA-18, dropped its infra-red-guided 500lb dummy bomb containing no explosive seven kilometres off target. It landed 150 metres from the bus. The increasingly high-tech weapons used in modern warfare may have been a factor in the near-miss, Mr. Ray said. "I suspect already it looks like high technology has, in fact, promoted this particular accident because these bombs rely on infra-red emissions, some of which may have come from the bus," Mr. Ray said in a television interview. Earlier this week two U.S. planes accidentally shot down two U.S. helicopters in northern Iraq's no-fly zone with heat-seeking and radar-guided missiles, believing they were Iraqi helicopters.

## Lyon suburbs hit by arson attacks

LYON, France (R) — Gangs of youths rampaged for the second successive night in the depressed suburbs of Lyon, France's second city, burning down a school gymnasium and setting a shopping mall ablaze, police said Sunday. The unrest was triggered by the deaths of three youths in a stolen car which crashed Thursday after a policeman fired shots when they burst through a police roadblock. Youths used a car as a battering ram to break down the doors of the gymnasium in Bron early Sunday morning and set fire to the building with petrol bombs, police said. Damage was estimated at four million francs (\$750,000). In nearby Rillieux-La-Pape, youths threw petrol bombs from a car, torching a chemist's shop and a shopping centre. In Bron and Vaulx-en-Velin, where the gymnasium was burned down the previous night, gangs of dozens of youths played cat and mouse with about 400 riot police for several hours, smashing shop windows and burning two cars. Bron Mayor Jean-Jack Queyranne said police had been given a list of buildings to guard but had gone home at 2 a.m., leaving the way free for the arsonists, whom he said were linked to organised crime. The Socialist mayor demanded that France's conservative government provide more resources for policing Lyon's rough suburbs, a frequent flashpoint of social unrest.

## China urged to clarify rules for reporters

HONG KONG (R) — Hong Kong has urged China to clarify rules for journalists working on the mainland after a Beijing court upheld a 12-year jail term on a Hong Kong-based reporter accused of spying. "I very much hope that the Chinese can, at a very early day, make clear exactly what the rules are so that Hong Kong reporters operating in China can ensure that they comply with these rules," Chief Secretary Anson Chan said Saturday. Her appeal follows Beijing's decision to uphold the prison sentence on Xi Yang, a China-born reporter with Hong Kong's Ming Pao newspaper. Mr. Xi was convicted at a secret trial in China late last month of stealing "state secrets" about internal policies on interest rates and gold reserves.

## Athens blasts destroy 2 cars

ATHENS (AP) — Time bombs destroyed two cars belonging to official French interests in central Athens early Sunday, police said. No one was injured. The two bombs went off within five minutes of each other at about 5 a.m. (0200 GMT) under two cars parked near the French Institute, a cultural centre, in the Kolonaki district, a police spokesman said. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the blasts. He said the cars had "foreign mission" license plates, but could not immediately identify their owners further. Vehicles with such plates are usually driven by people manning a foreign country's official cultural institute. The officer spoke on condition of anonymity, in accordance with Greek practice. The French Institute was the target of a small bomb blast that caused minor damage several weeks ago. That blast was claimed by Revolutionary Popular Struggle.

## Return of 17 Gaza 'fugitives' delayed

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The return of 17 Palestinians who fled the occupied territories during the intifada was delayed Sunday until the fate of over 50 Palestinian expellees tipped to return to the occupied territories is decided by Palestinian and Israeli officials holding bilateral talks in Cairo, a spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Sunday.

"The 17 fugitives will most probably return with the deportees," the spokesman told the Jordan Times. The 17 are members of the Fateh Hawks and are all intifada activists from Gaza who fled to Egypt to evade capture by the Israeli occupation authorities.

The 50 expellees tipped to return include political activists belonging to Fateh that were expelled during the intifada or before. PLO sources in Amman say that Israelis are refusing to allow the return of any expellee involved in military operations against Israel.

The 50 are expected to come from a total list of some 1,850 people expelled individually by Israel since its occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem in 1967.

The list of returnees is expected to include Akram Hanih, top aid of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. Mr. Hanih would be the highest ranking PLO official to be allowed back into the occupied territories.

Two other Arafat aides who were originally tipped to return, Jibril Rajoub from Hebron and Mohammad Dahlan from Gaza are not likely to return with the latest group to be allowed in by Israel.

PLO officials have said in private that the two men were "not very popular" in their home turf despite their political proximity to Mr. Arafat and that Mr. Arafat had decided to delay their return.

Members of political parties or organisations who are opposed to the ongoing peace talks between the PLO and Israel have thus far been excluded from returning.

Palestinian negotiators in Cairo are attempting to convince their Israeli counterparts that it would be counterproductive to divide Palestinian expellees as well as some 9,000 prisoners into pro- and anti-peace talks camps.

"By denying all those opposed to the talks the right of return or freedom from imprisonment is dangerous because it undermines the PLO's power and authority. It is as if the PLO can only negotiate on

behalf of Fateh, FIDA and the Palestine Peoples Party," said a member of FIDA in Amman, referring to the three Palestinian parties who have participated in the peace talks.

The return of these batch of 50 expellees would be the third since the peace talks began in Madrid in October 1991. The first group of 30 was allowed back in May 1993 and the second batch of 47 was allowed to return in March this year.

By Jordan Times pressline, the final list of returnees was not yet agreed upon but PLO officials believed that a return by Thursday was "possible."

Agencies add: Israel Television reported on Saturday night that the 17 fugitives would be allowed back on Sunday.

But Diah Al Louh, a member of a PLO steering committee in the occupied Gaza Strip, said none would return on Sunday and they were waiting in Cairo for instructions.

A spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin would not confirm the number but said "there was agreement to allow some deportees to return."

Rashid Abn Shbak, who returned from exile earlier this month to take over as PLO liaison with Israel, told the Associated Press in occupied Jerusalem that the fugitives, who fled after being put on Israel's "anted list for attacks on Israel" targets, were originally scheduled to arrive Sunday but their return was postponed for technical reasons.

"These fugitives are scattered in Libya, Tunisia, Algeria and it will take a few days to get them to Cairo so they can return to the Gaza Strip," Mr. Abu Shbak said.

There are an estimated 60 fugitives who fled the occupied lands. Twenty-six are Fateh members who fled the Gaza Strip through Egypt in the past four years, Palestinian sources said.

Last week Israel allowed the return of 50 Palestinian exiles and agreed to free 5,000 Palestinian prisoners when the two sides signed a pact on self-rule.

Chief Palestinian negotiator Nabil Shaath said on Saturday the PLO would insist in the Cairo talks that Israel release thousands of prisoners belonging to the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, held for political offences.

But top Israeli negotiator Amnon Shabak said on Friday: "Hamas prisoners will not be released because they are against peace. We are not going to set on to the streets those who declare they are going to kill us."

## Washington seeks \$8.4 million military aid for Jordan and \$1,800 million for Israel

By a Jordan Times  
Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Clinton administration is seeking \$8.4 million in military assistance for Jordan for fiscal year 1995, compared with \$1.8 billion for Israel and \$1.3 billion for Egypt — two other Middle East countries which Washington describes as its partners in peace along with Jordan.

"The Defence Department submitted a formal request for approval for \$3.11 billion in foreign military assistance for nine countries to a House of Representatives subcommittee last week, summarising Washington's perspectives of relations with the Middle Eastern countries, the United States Information Service (USIS) reported.

The presentation was made by Frederick C. Smith, acting deputy assistant secretary of defence for Near Eastern and South Eastern affairs. A copy of the text was made available to the Jordan Times by the USIS in Amman.

Of \$8.4 million sought for Jordan, \$7.3 million are for military financing and \$1.1 million for direct training. Mr. Smith told the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee's sub-Committee on Europe and the Middle East.

The amount compares with requests for military assistance to Jordan worth \$9.88 million in 1994, \$21.25 million in 1993, and \$9.55 million for 1992. (Figures for non-military assistance are not included. The American fiscal year is October to September).

Mr. Smith's presentation referred to the figures for 1994

and 1993 only as "requested." (Officials have said that the requests were granted, and most of the funds have been disbursed, after holding them back for several months).

Mr. Smith described Jordan as a "key player" in the 29-month-old Arab-Israeli peace process "because of its geographic position and (His Majesty) King Hussein's stature in the region."

"The Jordanians are active participants in both the bilateral and multilateral fora and may be on the verge of reaching a peace agreement with Israel," according to Mr. Smith. "U.S.-Jordanian military relations have been traditionally quite strong, but suffered from the strain of Jordan's position during the Gulf war," he said.

"The U.S.-Jordanian relationship, however, has been revived over the past year," the Pentagon official said and referred to the meeting last January of the U.S.-Jordanian Joint Military Commission.

"The strong affinity between our two militaries arises from a long history of cross-training at the unit level," he added.

He noted that Jordan is an active contributor to international peacekeeping operations "on a scale far exceeding what we might normally expect from a country of its size."

"The Jordanian Armed Forces have fielded three battalions in Croatia, a military police company in Cambodia, a 20-man contribution to UNPROFOR in Bosnia and is providing training and equipment for the nascent Palestinian police force in Gaza and Jericho," Mr. Smith told the congressional committee.

The Pentagon official noted



GRADUATION: His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday presents certificates to His Royal Highness Prince Hamzah and His Royal Highness Prince Hashem upon their completion of training courses at the Special Forces along with other members of the unit. Attending the graduation along with the King were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah, who heads the Special Forces, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zaid Ben Shakar, Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman General Abdul Hafez Miral and senior officials.

## Iraq says it is facing health crisis

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq urged the world community, including its Arab Gulf foes, to persuade the U.N. Security Council to lift or at least ease sanctions to avert an imminent health crisis.

"What we are facing now is an acute shortage and sometimes complete absence of vital and life-saving drugs for heart diseases, antibiotics, and all spare parts for medical equipment," Iraq Health Minister Ummed Madhat Muharik told Reuters on Saturday.

"I would like to stress on calling on fair people all over the world and governments to release Iraq's frozen assets... to obtain drugs, medical equipment and other humanitarian facilities," Mr. Mubarak said.

Asked whether his pleas were also directed to Iraq's Gulf adversaries, Mr. Mubarak

said: "Yes." He said he needed \$300 million to revamp Iraq's health system.

"Sometimes we are not able to anaesthetise the patient completely until the final stages of the operation. Sometimes dentists are not using anaesthetics when extracting teeth," he said.

Mr. Mubarak said sanctions had so far "killed 430,093 people" since they were imposed in response to the 1990 Gulf crisis over Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

He said the death rate of children under five had soared since 1989, and malnutrition, non-existent in the past in Iraq, had become almost a nightmare.

"It is increasing dramatically from 102,487 cases in 1990 to 394,489 in the first three

months of 1994," he said.

The minister said that of the country's 30,000 hospital beds, only 30-45 per cent were occupied.

He said Iraq's imports of medical supplies, once worth \$350-\$500 million a year, had dropped to a trickle.

The U.N. trade embargo, in force for over three years, does not cover supplies of food and medicine but Mr. Mubarak said: "Unfortunately the truth is that there are so many problems created to import medical equipment and drugs to Iraq."

U.N. sanctions bar Iraqi oil exports.

Mr. Mubarak said his medical staff were demoralised.

"When you see a patient dying in front of your eyes and you are able to save his life but you cannot do so because of the absence of a simple drug..."

## Beirut: Iraqi diplomats confessed

BEIRUT (R) — Two Iraqi diplomats have confessed they were involved in the killing of an opponent of President Saddam Hussein in Beirut last week, official sources said on Sunday.

They said Cultural Attache Mohammad Kathem and commercial Attache Khaled Khalaf, who were arrested hours after the assassination of Sheikh Taleb Al Suhail on April 12, had also alleged they received their orders from Baghdad.

The two diplomats and a third man, identified as embassy guard Hadi Hassan, were suspected of gaining entry to Suhail's Beirut residency by posing as deliverymen for shirts he had ordered.

Security sources said Hassan, who is currently holed up in the Iraqi embassy, killed Suhail with a single shot to the

heart. Police threw a cordon around the Iraqi embassy in a Christian suburb of Beirut after the arrest of the diplomats, who were said to be armed, on Wednesday.

The cordon was still in place on Sunday with police under orders to seize Hassan if he ventured out, security sources said.

Officials said a diplomatic crisis was looming after Baghdad rejected Beirut's request to lift the immunity of the two diplomats.

They said the government would discuss the crisis in an emergency session on Monday and Foreign Minister Faris Bonez was expected to announce a reaction to the Iraqi rejection.

Lebanon might sever diplomatic ties with Baghdad and deport the diplomats, they

said. To put them on trial would be a breach of international convention because of their diplomatic immunity.

Iraq Charge d'Affaires Awadh Fakhri on Saturday relayed Baghdad's refusal to lift their immunity. He was confident the incident would not lead to a break of diplomatic ties.

"I am relaxed ... in matters bigger than this we did not cut ties with other countries," he said after meeting a senior Foreign Ministry official. Asked if the dispute between Beirut and Baghdad would be resolved, he said: "This is in the hands of the Lebanese government. We have been cooperative and responsive."

The only Lebanese diplomat in Baghdad, Charge d'Affaires Saad Zakhyia, has been called home.

## COLUMN

## Charles rues not being controversial

LONDON (R) — British heir-to-the-throne Prince Charles regrets not being able to be controversial and once seriously contemplated appearing on a humorous television show to lighten up his fuddy-duddy image. In an interview with the Mail On Sunday newspaper, Prince Charles says the royal family has no political axe to grind and he is one of the exclusive group of people "brought up entirely to think about the country." The interview, conducted three weeks ago at the royal family's Sandringham estate in eastern England by Roy Hattersley, former deputy leader of the opposition Labour Party, makes no direct mention of the prince's failed marriage to the glamorous Princess Diana. Prince Charles, 45, says he is frustrated by British tradition which constrains leading royalty from political or other controversial activity and limits a reigning monarch to merely advising a government of the day. "I regret the inability to be controversial. But I know I have to skirt round the more controversial issues." He concedes he once considered appearing on a popular television series featuring comedians Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise or with talk show host Terry Wogan to present a more natural image than usually seen by the general public. "I was tempted to appear with Morecambe and Wise. Very tempting. On Wogan or something. I could have talked normally, made jokes. But I would have been bound to say something that was held against me for years."

## After 20 years, man apologises for racial attack

BOSTON (AP) — It was a photograph that perpetuated Boston's image as a racist city: A white man trying to spear a black man with the long staff of a large American flag. The picture won a Pulitzer Prize. Now, 20 years later, one of the attackers has come forward to apologise to Ted Landsmark. Bobby Powers, who wasn't the person with the flag on April 5, 1976, met twice with Mr. Landsmark at Christmas time and admitted being the one who instigated the attack at City Hall Plaza. "If Bobby's visit has any meaning to me, it's that change occurs over 20 years and reconciliation is possible," Mr. Landsmark said. Mr. Powers, with about 120 fellow residents of the Charlestown neighbourhood, was leaving City Hall following an anti-bussing meeting with a city councillor. The whites opposed having blacks bused to their schools as part of a desegregation plan. Mr. Landsmark, then 29, was on his way to City Hall to head a meeting in his capacity as executive director of the Contractors' Association of Boston. The trade group worked to secure city construction contracts for minority builders. As the young, irritated whites crossed paths with the lone black dressed in a three-piece suit, violence erupted. The mob broke Landsmark's nose and the flag staff struck a glancing blow across his face when a man jabbed it at him like a bayonet. "Even though my glasses had been knocked off, I could see it coming and I leaned back. It missed me by inches," recalled Mr. Landsmark, now 47. Since that day, Mr. Landsmark, a Yale graduate and lawyer, has held positions in higher education and in two mayoral administrations.

## New age Catholic priest joins Episcopalians

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A Roman Catholic priest who was censured by the Vatican has found a new home for his new age blend of Christian mysticism, environmentalism, social justice and feminism. The Rev. Matthew Fox was welcomed into the Episcopal Church Friday, bringing with him his "creation spirituality" and his plans for a high-tech, multimedia mass to lure youths back to Christianity. The services will be similar to one developed in England, which used 42 television sets and 12 video cameras to record and rebroadcast sermons and the mass, interspersed with images of American Televangelists, industrial pollution and an embrace between President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister John Major.